Fifteen years have passed since Hero made a vow to Sword Saint to relinquish the path of vengeance. Unbeknownst to him, his son Jian is still alive and has come to Chinatown to find him! But why does Jian take his sweet time telling his father his true identity? Confused? Check out the latest volume to find out Jian's motives! Look forward to an action-filled tale as Hero, Jian, and their friends band together to defeat new enemies who hold strange and mysterious powers never seen before!

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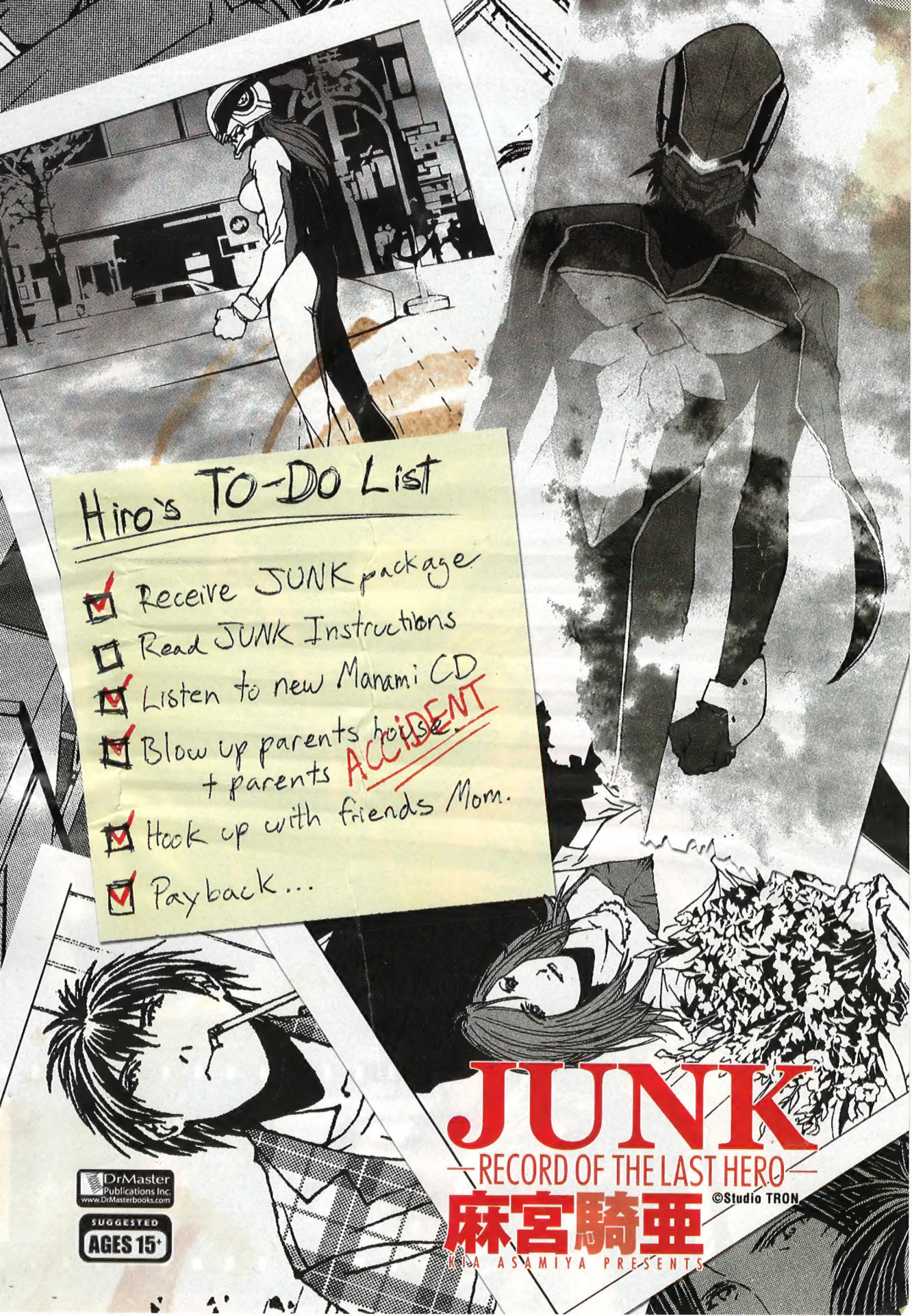

JUNK

—RECORD OF THE LAST HERO—

麻宮騎亜

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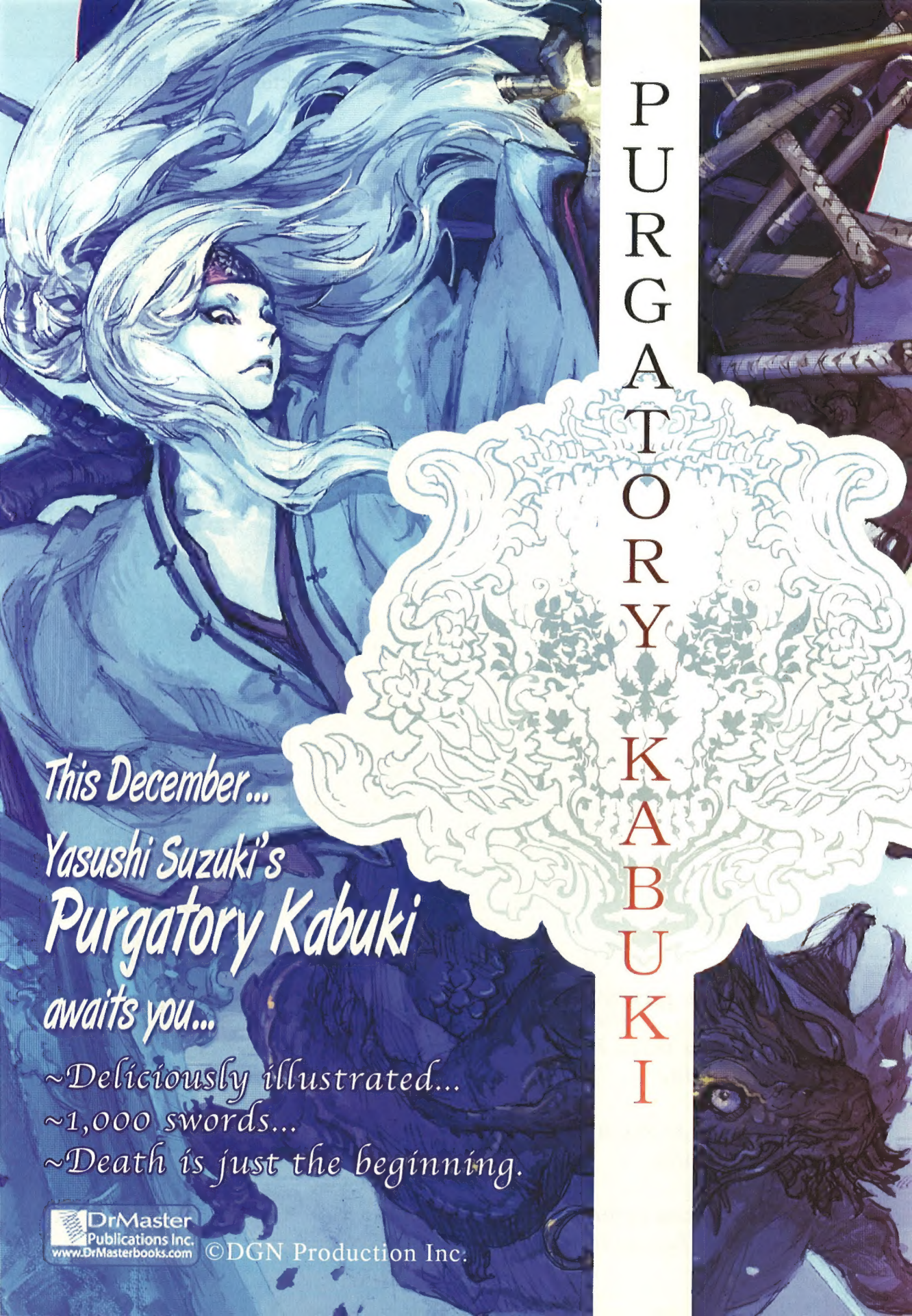
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IT'S CLEAR THAT THE BLACK RATS AND WHITE MICE ARE ENEMIES. THESE TWO MUST BE THE LEADERS!
A BATTLE BETWEEN KINGS--A RARE EVENT TO WITNESS!
THE MICE IGNORE JIAN; THEIR ATTENTION IS FIXED SOLELY ON THE BATTLE.
Both sides cheer for their leaders, creating a raucous atmosphere!
SQUEAK—SQUEAK—
SQUEAK!
The leaders must battle to determine which side is victorious. Their loyal followers watch from the background.
The Black Rat King emits a loud screech and attacks first...
SQUEAK
BUT HOW CAN SUCH A SMALL MOUSE HOPE TO WIN?

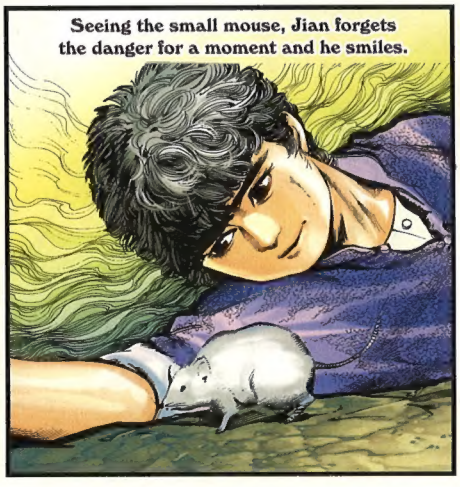
As he falls, he blocks the entrance for the other rats.
BAM!!

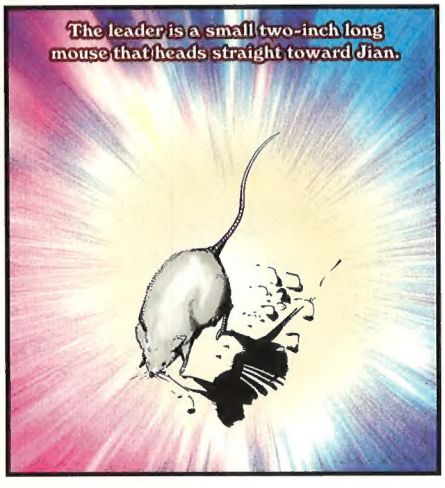
HA!
The rats have no mercy. Jian is in a lot of pain, but he uses his energy to spin his body around and shake the rats loose.

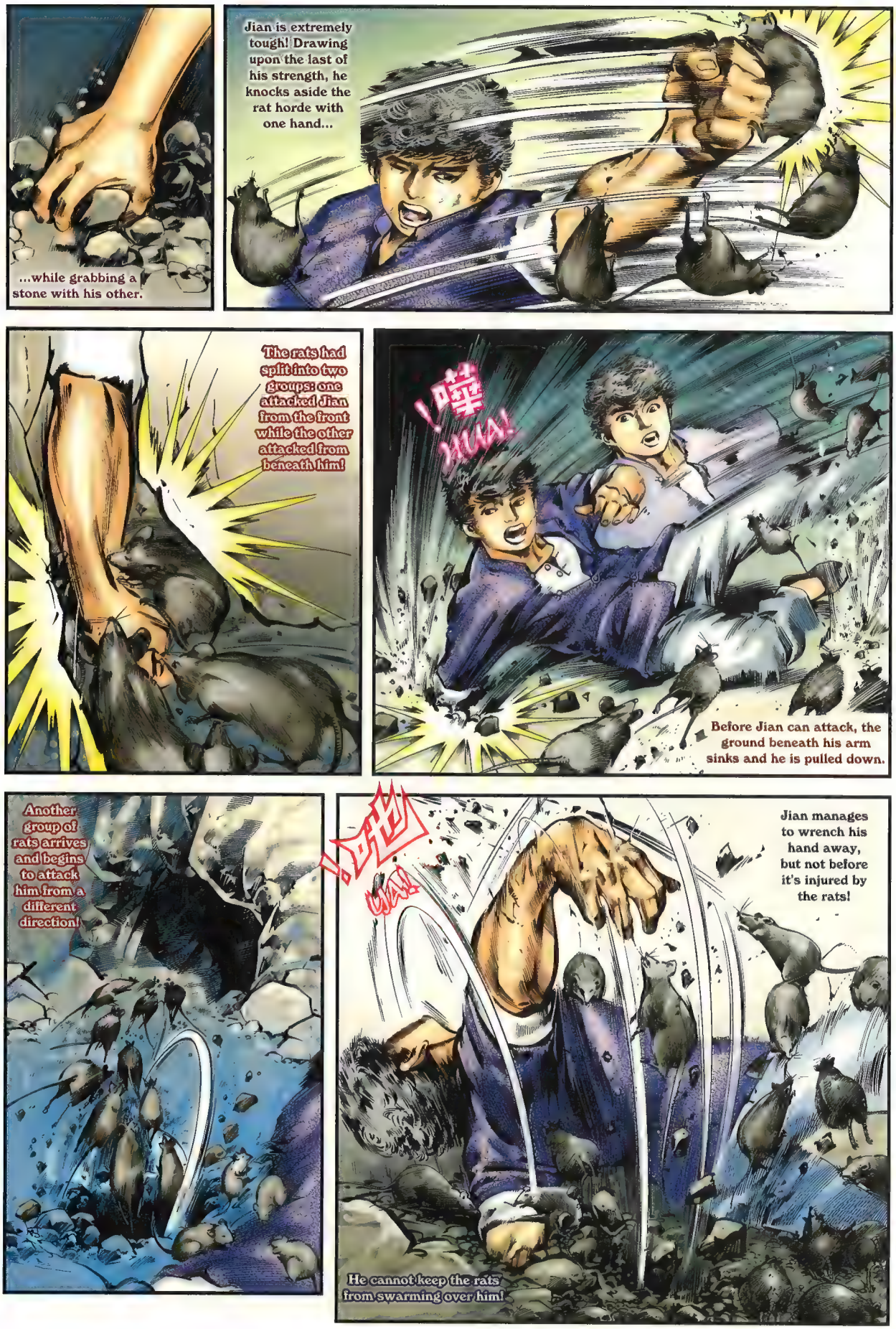
AH!!
Before he can react, a large band of white mice come pouring out of the cave.

Jian suddenly feels the presence of another creature within the darkness of the cave!

The rats are afraid of the mice and retreat into a corner, abandoning their attack.


Seeing the small mouse, Jian forgets the danger for a moment and he smiles.


The leader is a small two-inch long mouse that heads straight toward Jian.


...while grabbing a stone with his other.
Jian is extremely tough! Drawing upon the last of his strength, he knocks aside the rat horde with one hand...
The rats had split into two groups: one attacked Jian from the front while the other attacked from beneath him!
HUA!
Before Jian can attack, the ground beneath his arm sinks and he is pulled down.
Another group of rats arrives and begins to attack him from a different direction!
Jian manages to wrench his hand away, but not before it's injured by the rats!
He cannot keep the rats from swarming over him!

HMPH!
呼!
UA!
嘶!
RIP!
吱~~~吱吱
SQUEAK SQUEAK~ SQUEAK~

!咻
Suddenly, Jian is startled awake by a strange sound. He immediately throws a stone in the direction of the sound to defend himself.
SHOOT
SHA
黑鼠王
Black Rat King
THE RAT KING IS LARGER THAN A CAT! HE LEADS HUNDREDS OF RATS TOWARD GREEN KING'S CORPSE, PLANNING TO TAKE IT BY FORCE!
!吓

STUPID RATS, I'LL KILL YOU IF YOU COME OUT HERE...
PAIN!
吱吱
AFTER SOME TIME, HIS HUNGER AND THIRST GROW!
Jian focuses all his energy on keeping the rats away.
GRUMBLE... GRUMBLE
RATS ... I CAN'T EAT THEM!
NO, I CAN'T! I THINK I'D RATHER STARVE TO DEATH, THAN HAVE TO EAT RATS...
AFTER THE EXHAUSTION OF THE DAY, JIAN FALLS INTO A DEEP SLUMBER!
THERE IS NO WAY TO TELL TIME IN THE DEEP DARK CAVE!

GOT-CHA!
PUH!
At the bottom of the cave is a rat warren.
SUDDENLY, THE RATS ALL RUN AWAY!
GET AWAY!
SNAP!
I WILL PROTECT YOU!
DON'T YOU WORRY!
THESE RATS ARE TRYING TO TAKE YOU AND EAT YOU!
The right side of Jian's body is throbbing in pain.
OUCH ...
JIAN PREPARES A LARGE STACK OF ROCKS AND USES GREEN KING'S BELT AS A WEAPON. HE VOWS TO PROTECT GREEN KING'S BODY TO ATONE FOR THE CRIME OF KILLING HIM.
LUCKILY, RATS ARE STILL A BIT AFRAID OF HUMANS...

啊!!
Green King's body suddenly begins moving!
I CAN'T LET THE RATS GET HIM...
A large group of rats is carrying his body away.
吱吱~吱~
SQUEAK-SQUEAK-SQUEAK
走!
PAH!
啪
啊!!
WOW, THESE ARE SOME SCARY RATS!

The explosion is so strong that even those nearby are thrown back by its power!

Yin Yang Emissary had prepared the spears by filling them with powerful explosives. As the five used the third attack, he detonated the explosives knowing full well that it would kill his allies as well as his enemies.

The 3rd Attack of the Radiant Sun Stance was originally called Radiant Sunbeam, but it was modified by Yin Yang Emissary to become Extinction Blow! It is meant to be a suicide attack. This is why Yin Yang Emissary taught it to Red King and her men.

To kill Hero, Yin Yang Emissary will stop at nothing.

WHAT!

What does he hope to gain from this?

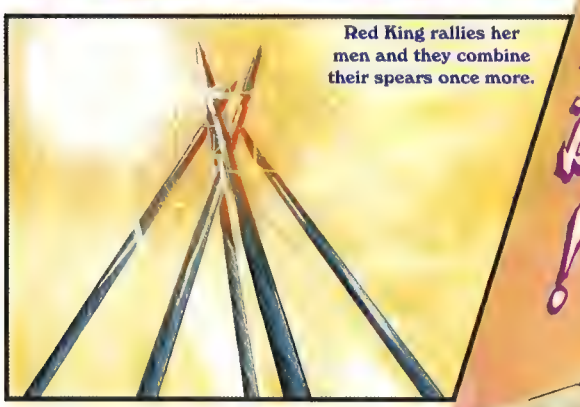
THAT'S RIGHT!

HEY, YOU PUT EXPLOSIVES IN THE CRYSTAL SPEARS...

The Extinction Blow seems powerful enough to defeat Hero. Anticipating their victory, Red King and the others can feel the spears growing hot in their hands!
AH!
Just as Hero is about to be struck, a pair of hands reach up from the ground and firmly seize him!
SUDDEN-LY, AN EXPLOSION RIPS RIGHT THROUGH THEM!
BOOM!

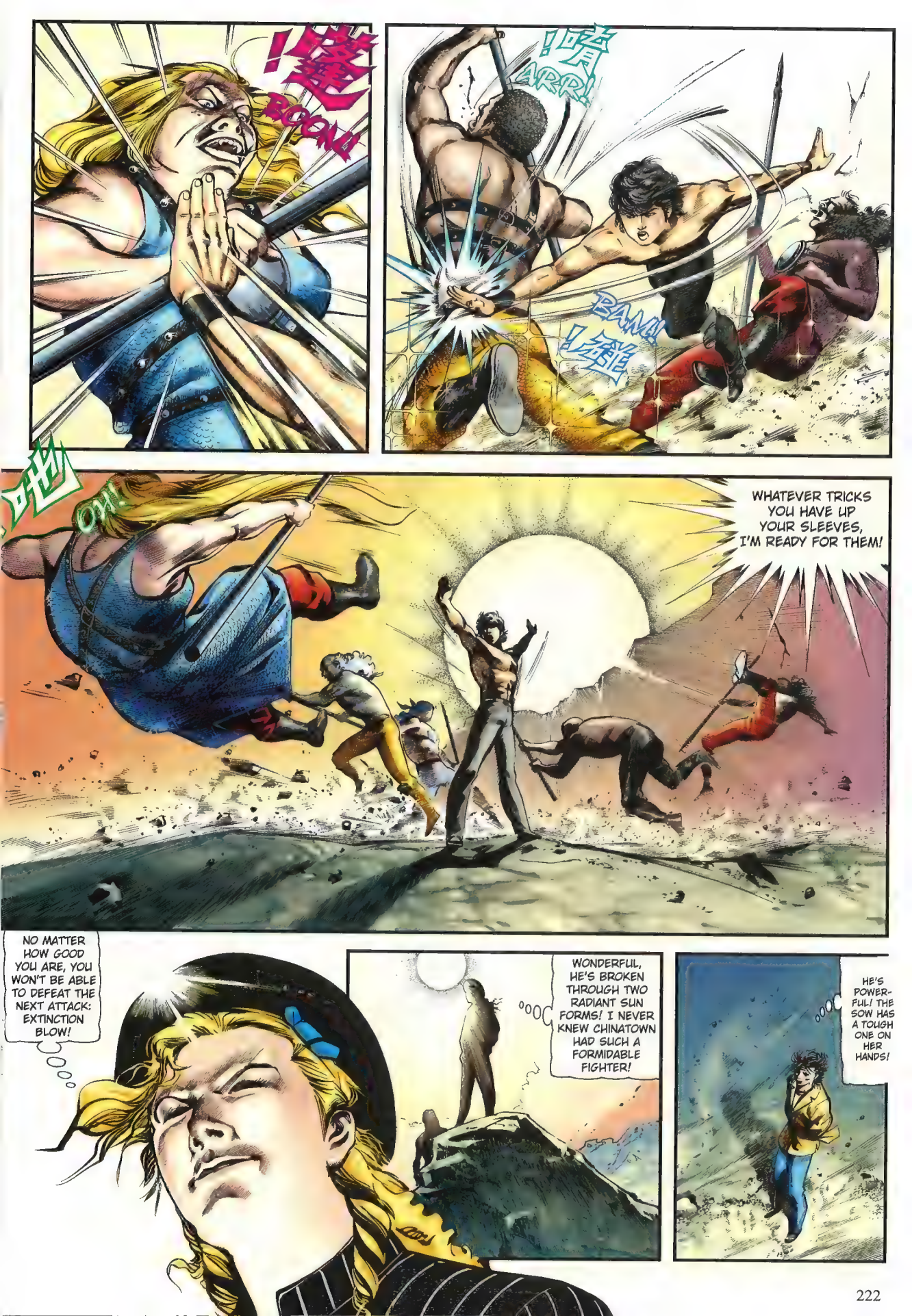
The crystal spearheads are able to focus the sun's rays into a powerful heat beam. Anything in its path is instantly set on fire.
Pain shoots through his shoulder as he hastily leaps aside.
The beam of light is much too fast for Hero to dodge.
嗜
AH!
嗤
CHA!
轉換方位!
Change directions!
Hero rebounds and immediately charges toward them!
啊
AH!
As they change the direction of the stance, they also change the direction of the beams. Hero's path is blocked!
SHA - SHA -
SHA - SHA -
沙 沙

OH!


Red King rallies her men and they combine their spears once more.

滅色一擊，列陣！
Extinction Blow, ready stance!

As the tips of the crystal spears are filled with sunlight, a strong beam shoots forth.
CHA!


BOOM!
ARR!
BAM!
OH!
WHATEVER TRICKS YOU HAVE UP YOUR SLEEVES, I'M READY FOR THEM!
NO MATTER HOW GOOD YOU ARE, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO DEFEAT THE NEXT ATTACK: EXTINCTION BLOW!
WONDERFUL, HE'S BROKEN THROUGH TWO RADIANT SUN FORMS! I NEVER KNEW CHINATOWN HAD SUCH A FORMIDABLE FIGHTER!
HE'S POWERFUL! THE SOW HAS A TOUGH ONE ON HER HANDS!

SHA-SHA-SHA-
BOOM!
BOOM!

As the five spears stab downward, Hero immediately counters with Infinite Hedron, spinning rapidly to form a protective wall of chi around himself.

YA! 呀!

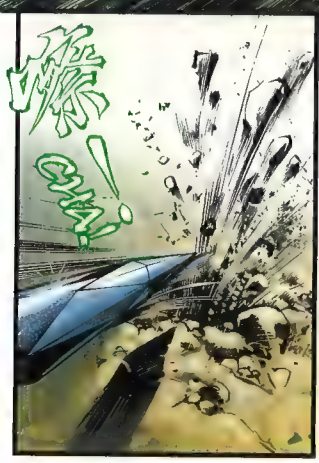
YA! 呀!

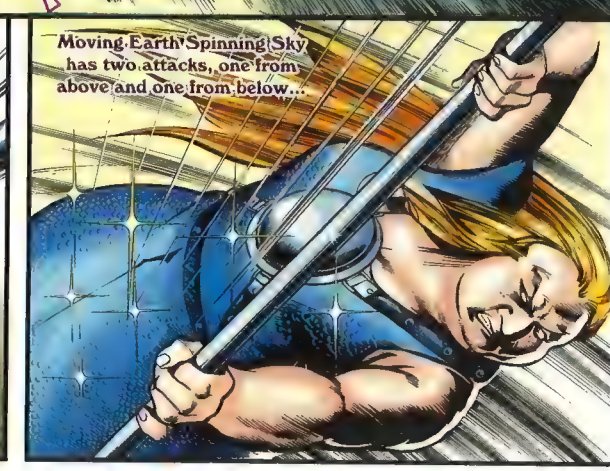
AH! 啊!

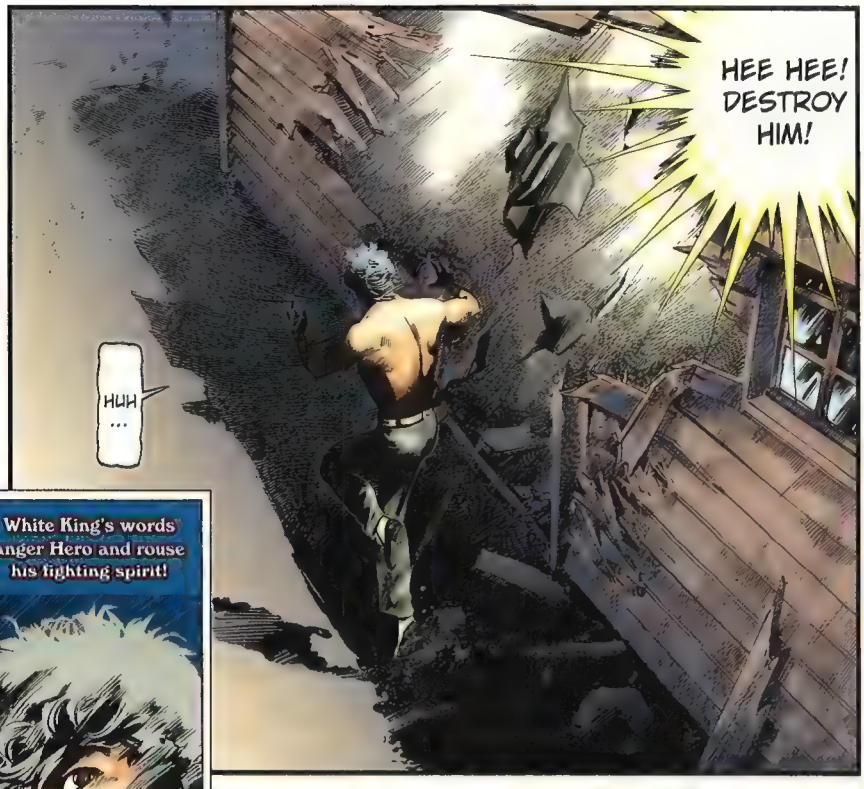
Moving Earth Spinning Sky

地動天!

PANK! 嘭!





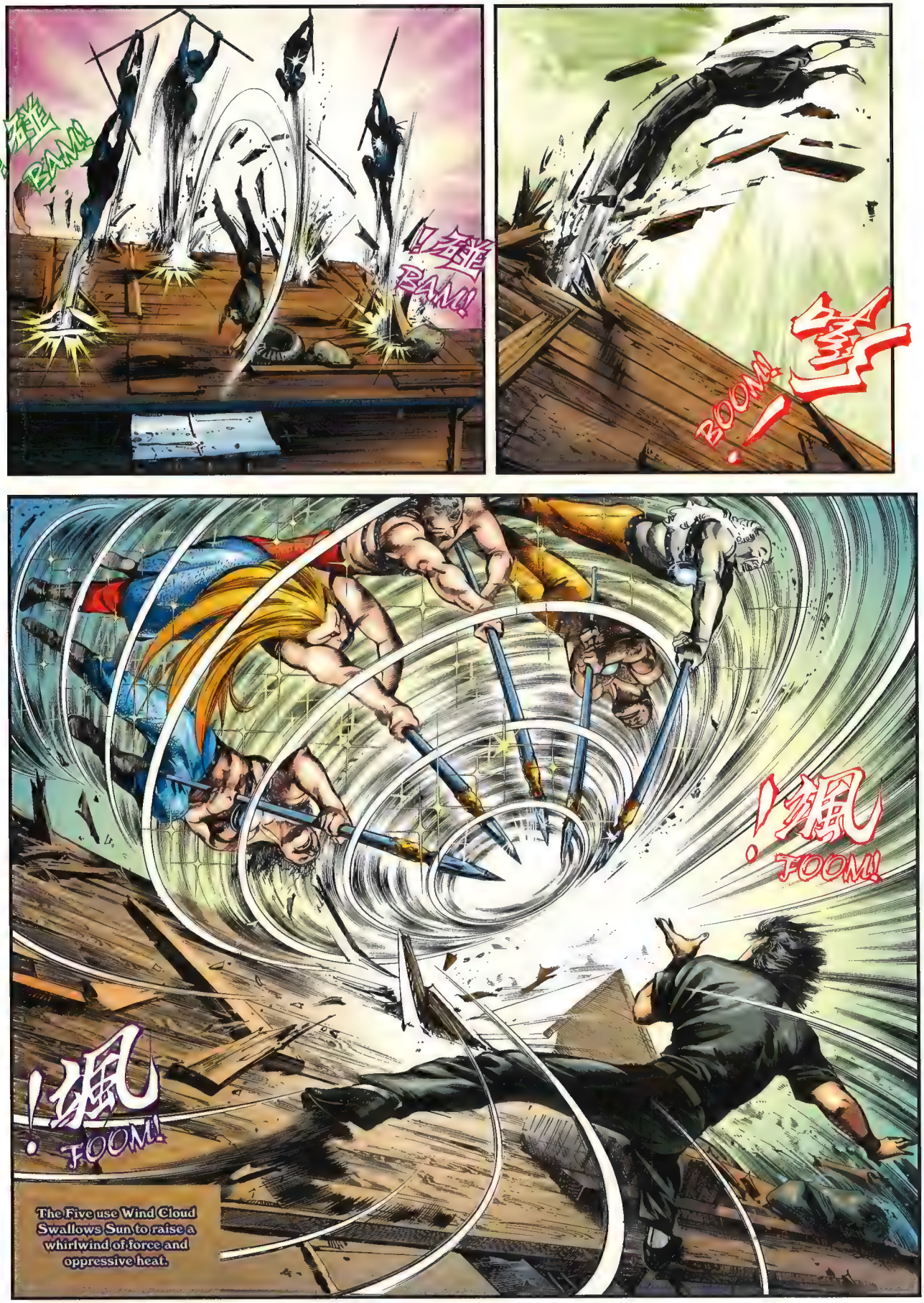

HEE HEE! DESTROY HIM!
HUH ...

White King's words anger Hero and rouse his fighting spirit!

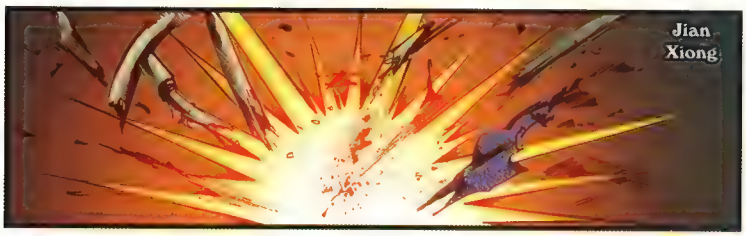
Radiant Sun Stance 2nd Stance -
Covering Sky Swallowing Earth
HIYA!

Hero drops back to the ground, but his excess chi causes his shirt to rip apart!

WHAT?! IS HE TRYING TO COMMIT SUICIDE?
...Hero meets the attack head on.
Using the opening stance of the Infinite Hedron's Boundless Buddhism...
With Hero's experience, he immediately spots an opening and a way to break the attack!
Hero knows that the exact center of the stance is the opening between the five spears.
With his strong chi, he breaks this form of the Radiant Sun Stance using teachings from a sword technique called Straight Breaking the Circle.
HAH!

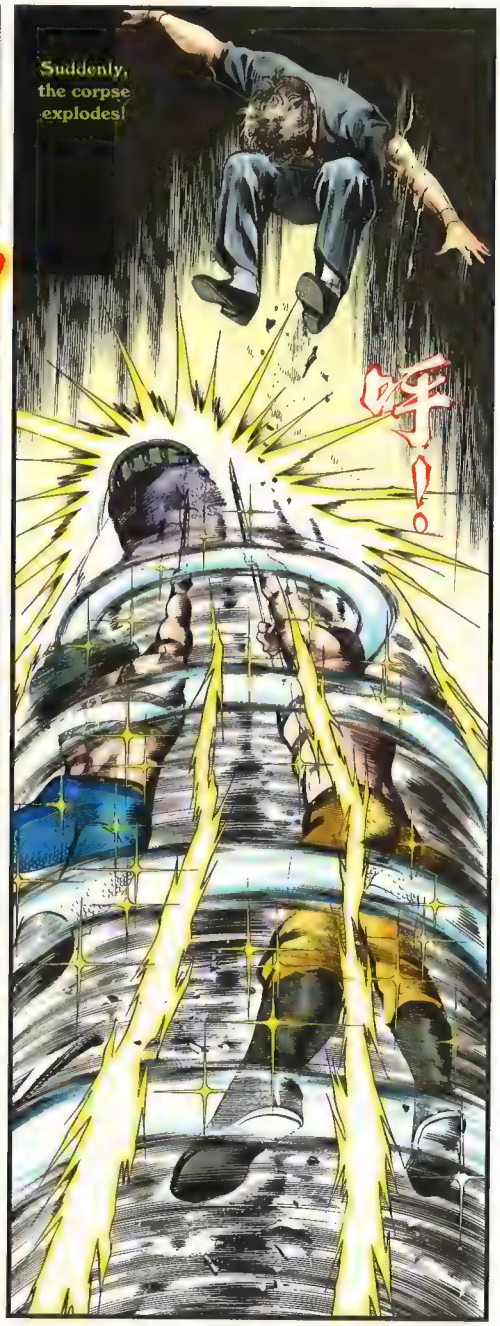

BAM!
BAM!
BOOM!
FOOM!
FOOM!
The Five use Wind Cloud Swallows Sun to raise a whirlwind of force and oppressive heat.

He quickly leaps into the air to avoid the attack.
Hero pushes aside two of the spears, but this stance combines all five spears into one strike. He cannot block all of the spears without injury, so he retreats.


Jian Xiong

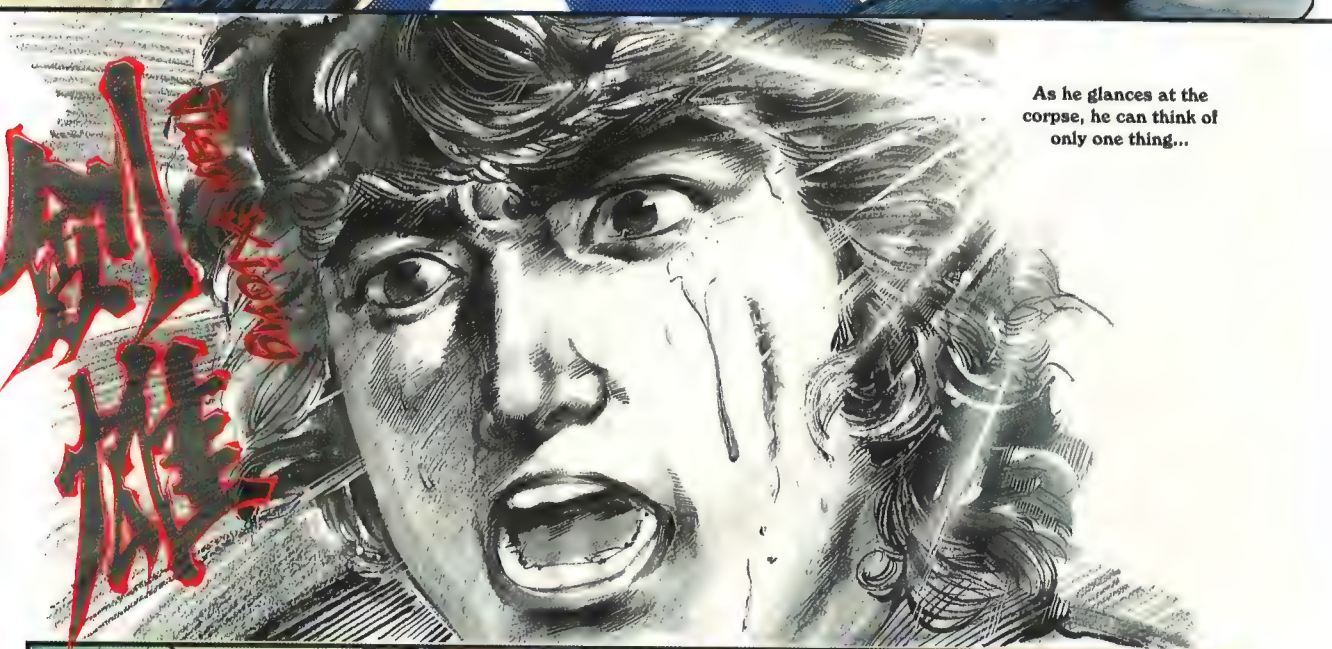
Hero had no chance to examine the body, but he's certain it must be Jian.
劍雄

The five villains have still not used their stance to its fullest extent. Pushing off the wall, they press the attack!


Suddenly, the corpse explodes!

風雲噬日
烈陽陣第一式殺著
Radiant Sun Stance: First Killing Stance
Wind Cloud Swallows the Sun
哇!
CRACK

Hero breaks through the door but finds a headless corpse tied to a small chair...
呀!


劍雄
Jian Xiong
As he glances at the corpse, he can think of only one thing...

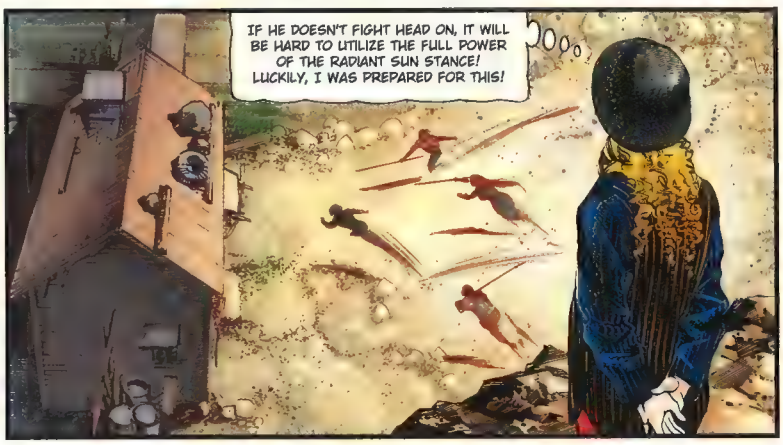
As Hero moves forward, he feels a strong attack pressing from behind!
啪!
CRACK

I HAVE TO SAVE JIAN! THERE'S NO TIME LEFT!

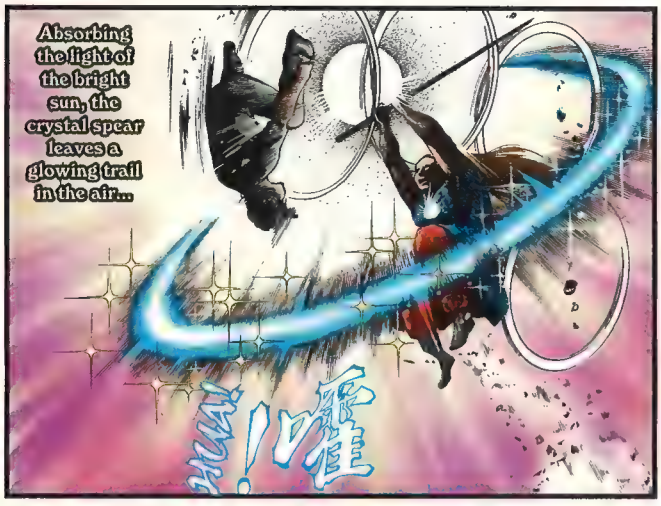
It utilizes the highest ninjitsu teachings.
The Radiant Sun Stance was taught to the Yin Yang Emissary by a Japanese mystic.

With a roar, Hero creates an opening with his palms and quickly tries to exit.

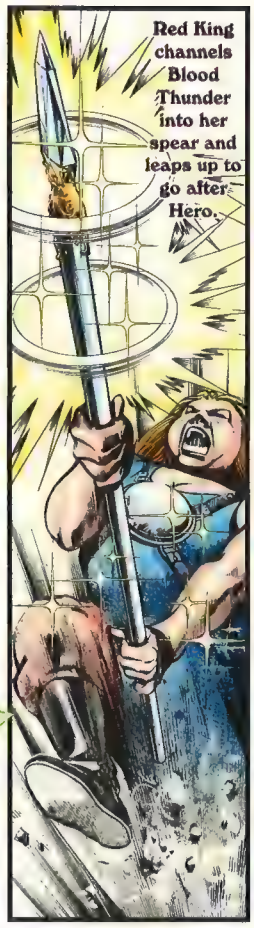
BAM!


IF HE DOESN'T FIGHT HEAD ON, IT WILL BE HARD TO UTILIZE THE FULL POWER OF THE RADIANT SUN STANCE! LUCKILY, I WAS PREPARED FOR THIS!

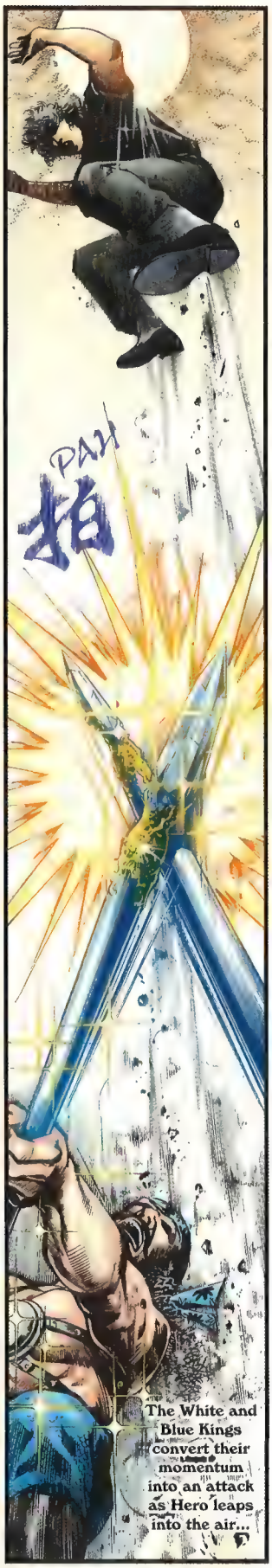
Infinite Hedron Four Directions
化陣
Change
ROAR
Like a tidal wave, Hero's move overpowers the attack. Each of his enemies is forced to retreat.
WHAT A POWERFUL STANCE. IT COMBINES STILLNESS, RETREAT, DEFENSE AND ATTACK INTO A SEAMLESS ORCHESTRA OF MOVEMENT. IT'S NEUTRALIZED THE POWER OF MY ATTACKS.


Absorbing the light of the bright sun, the crystal spear leaves a glowing trail in the air...
HUAH!

!

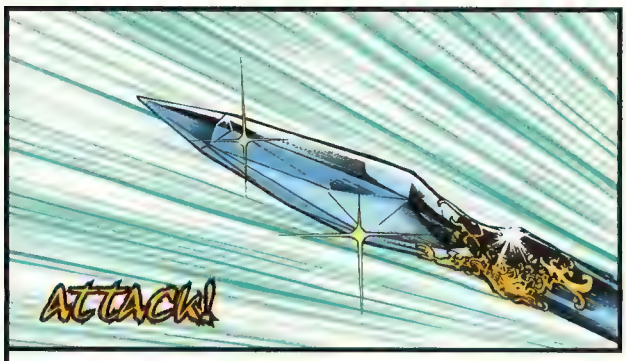

Red King channels Blood Thunder into her spear and leaps up to go after Hero.

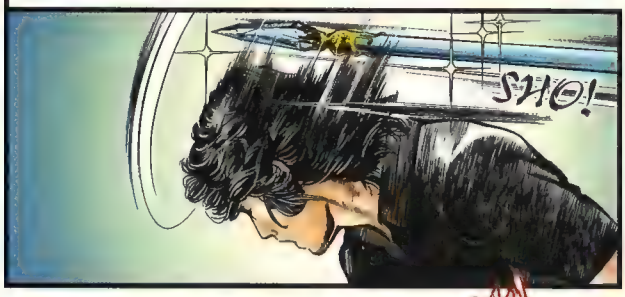
As he falls toward the ground, Hero is blinded by the light of the bright spears!


PAH
The White and Blue Kings convert their momentum into an attack as Hero leaps into the air...

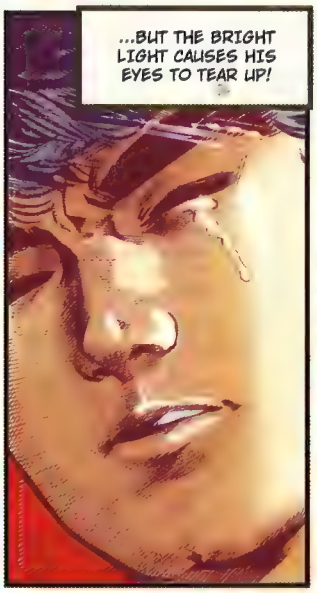
Hero remains calm despite the danger. While blocking Blue and White King's attack with his right foot, he strikes at the others with his palms, knocking their crystal spears aside!

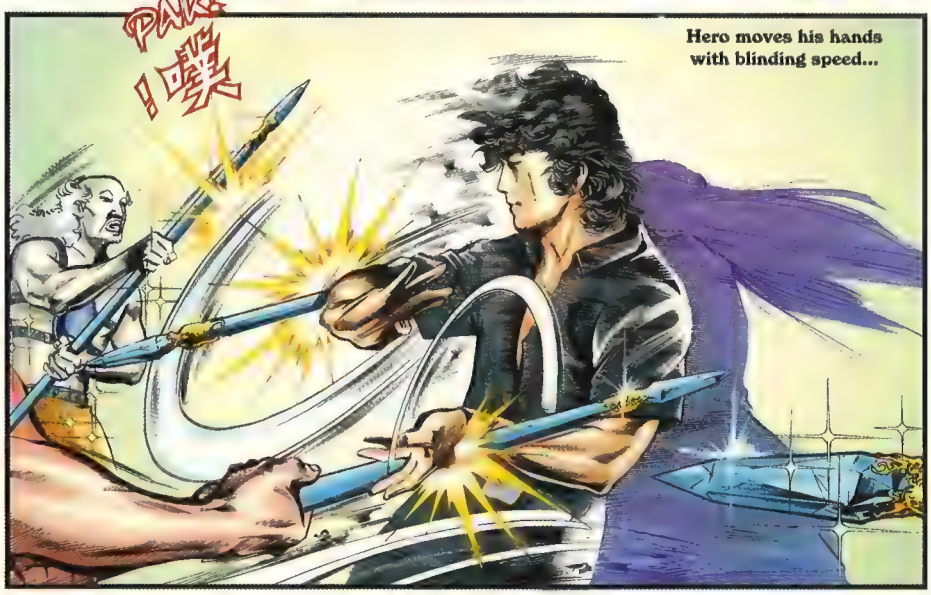
Change!
化陣
With only ten steps, Hero has already moved past his enemies...
AT RED KING'S COMMAND, THEY CHANGE THE POSITION OF THE STANCE WITH MIRACULOUS SPEED.
PU!
!噗
!呼
!嘿
AH!
Yet somehow the Radiant Sun Stance seems to be even more powerful!

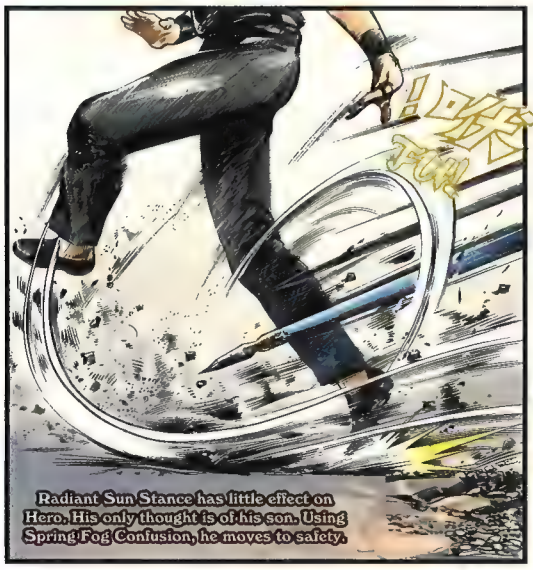

ATTACK!

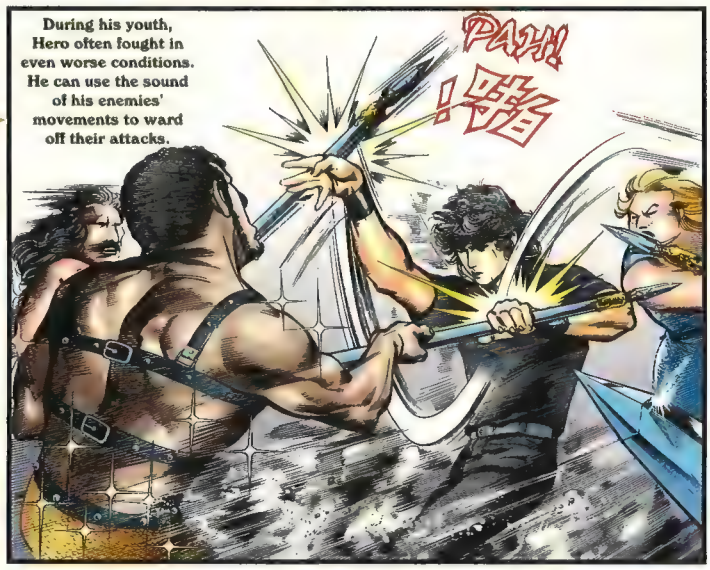

SHO!

AH!

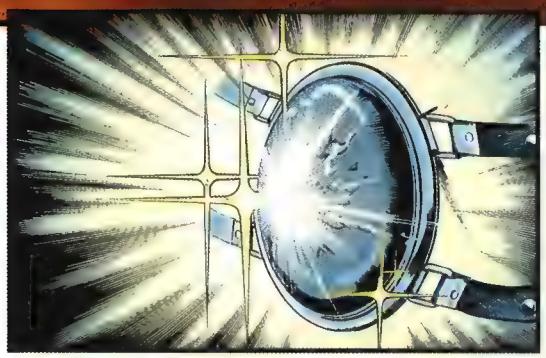

...BUT THE BRIGHT LIGHT CAUSES HIS EYES TO TEAR UP!


PAK!
Hero moves his hands with blinding speed...


FOU!
Radiant Sun Stance has little effect on Hero. His only thought is of his son. Using Spring Fog Confusion, he moves to safety.


During his youth, Hero often fought in even worse conditions. He can use the sound of his enemies' movements to ward off their attacks.
PASH!

Breaking the Stand
鬪陣



THEY CAME PREPARED... I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT THESE FOREIGNERS WOULD KNOW HOW TO USE THIS STANCE!
Hero came to exchange hostages, only to find the Five Kings employing the new Radiant Sun stance!

中華英雄
Chinese Hero

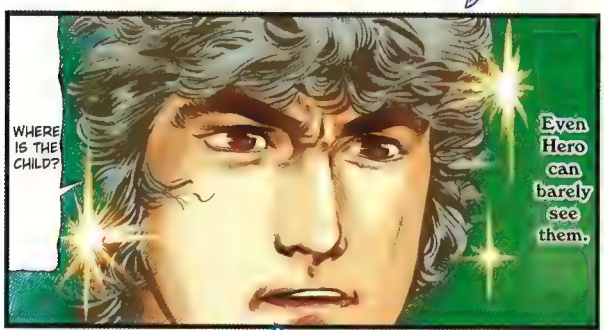
-Tales of the Blood Sword-

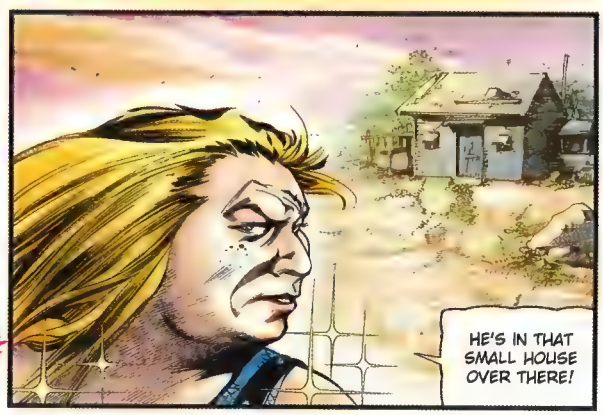
Chapter 24:
Breaking the Stand

THEY CAME PREPARED! I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT THESE FOREIGNERS WOULD KNOW HOW TO USE THIS STANCE!
Hero is well versed in various stances and position movements. He can tell the five are now in a defensive position. He dares not make any mistakes. Cautiously, he guards himself...

Pressing down his palms lightly, he jumps up!
呼
FU!
Hero moves quicker than eyes can follow.
嚯
HUA!
OLD MAN, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I... I CAN'T MOVE AT ALL...
If you want to save him, you have to break our Solar Radiance Stance first!
要救人、先過我們烈陽陣!
Hero used his unique chi to close Disease Man's pressure points. Without Hero to undo the damage, Disease Man will never be able to move!
I'll kill you first!
哈、先殺了你!
刻陣
The Stand

Hero's enemies are all wearing mail fitted with a small concave mirror. They each hold a long silver spear fitted with a sharp crystal on the end. They practically burn with reflected sunlight.



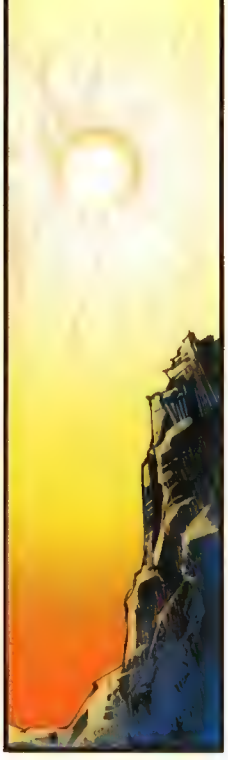


I'M HERE! HURRY UP AND EXCHANGE HOSTAGES!

Hero stands defiantly with his eyes closed!

OH...
Suddenly, a bright light shines toward them, making it difficult to see anything!

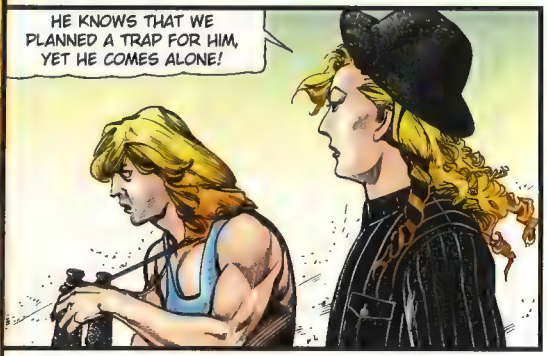
DON'T WORRY OLD MAN, WE'VE COME TO SAVE YOU!



This morning is Zhen Fang Yuan's funeral, so Hero is guarding Disease Man.

Hero had received a message from the Yin Yang Emissary with news of the hostage exchange.

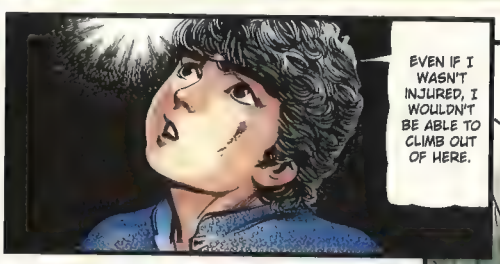
Knowing that his enemies likely have a trap planned for him, Hero doesn't want to involve Lohan and Wu Yuan. He goes alone to the appointed meeting place.



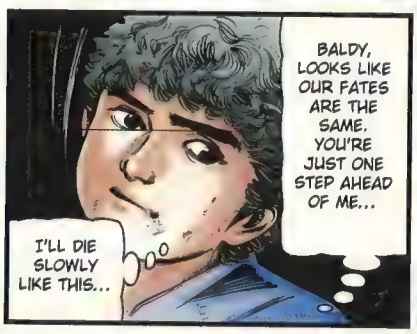
咕咕
AH, I WONDER HOW LONG I'VE BEEN DOWN HERE? I'M STARVING!

ONE OF US HAD TO DIE! YOU BULLIED ME, A YOUNG BOY, SO IT WAS PROBABLY YOUR FATE TO DIE!

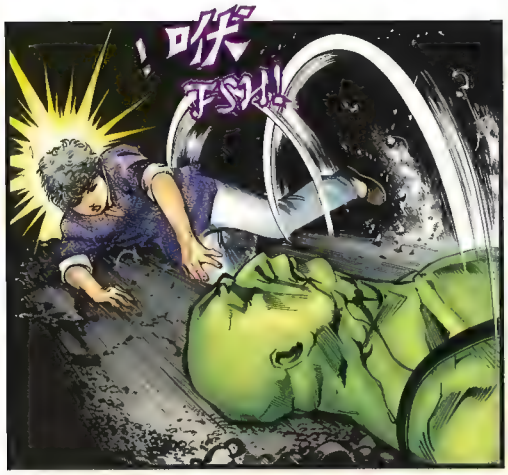
Suddenly Green King's body begins to twitch...

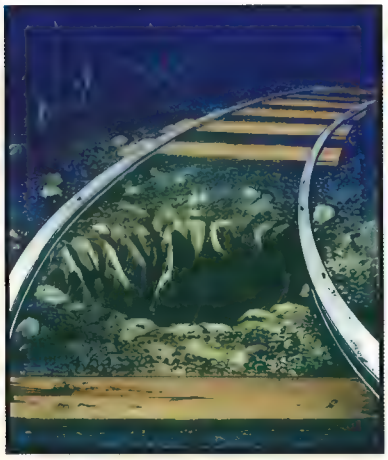

EVEN IF I WASN'T INJURED, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO CLIMB OUT OF HERE.

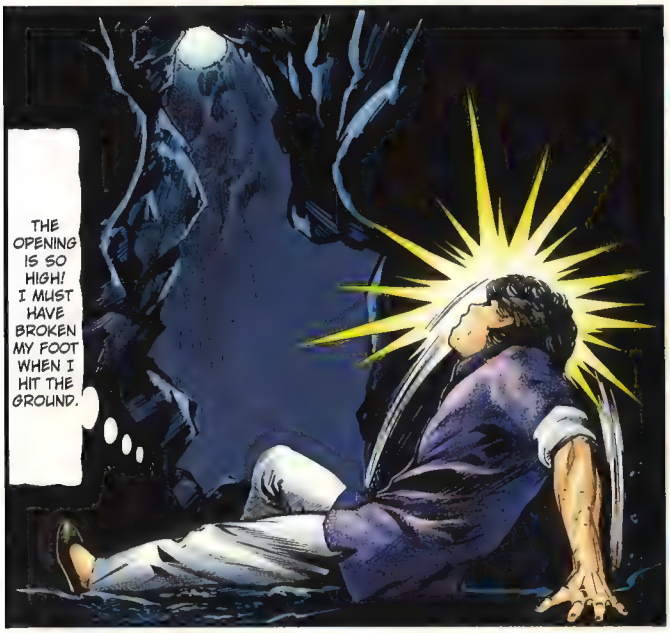
THERE'S NO FOOD OR WATER IN HERE...


BALDY, LOOKS LIKE OUR FATES ARE THE SAME. YOU'RE JUST ONE STEP AHEAD OF ME...
I'LL DIE SLOWLY LIKE THIS...

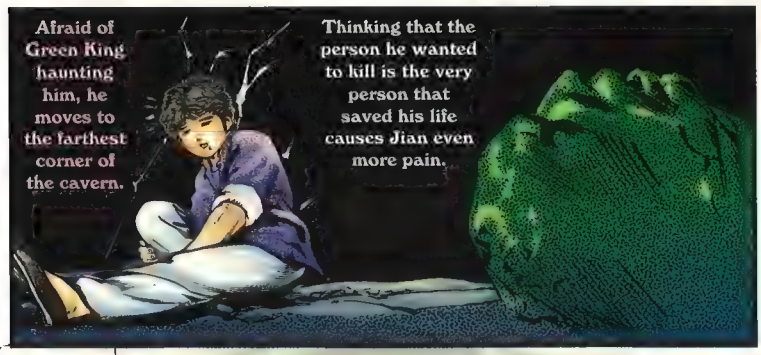
WHAT COULD IT BE?

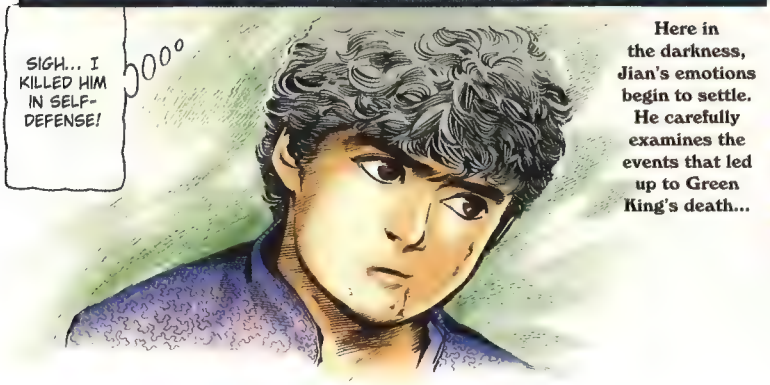

!呀
!啊



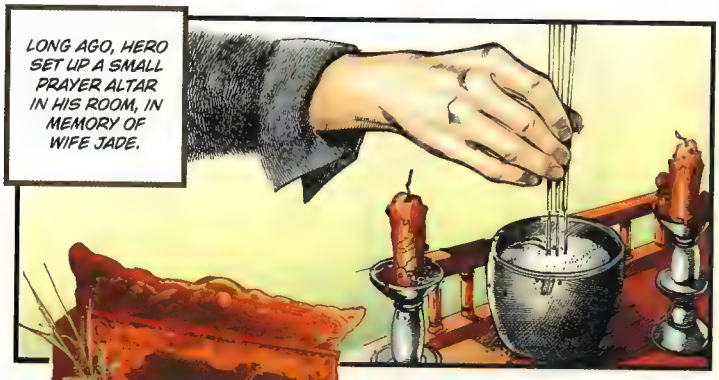

THE OPENING IS SO HIGH! I MUST HAVE BROKEN MY FOOT WHEN I HIT THE GROUND.

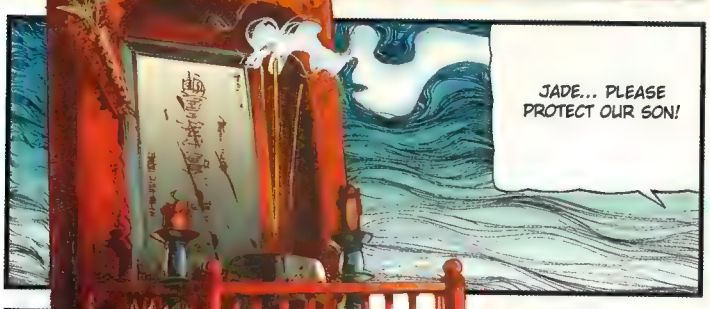
The sudden movement causes Jian's leg to cramp in pain.
!哎
OUCH!!


Afraid of Green King haunting him, he moves to the farthest corner of the cavern.
Thinking that the person he wanted to kill is the very person that saved his life causes Jian even more pain.


SIGH... I KILLED HIM IN SELF-DEFENSE!
Here in the darkness, Jian's emotions begin to settle. He carefully examines the events that led up to Green King's death...

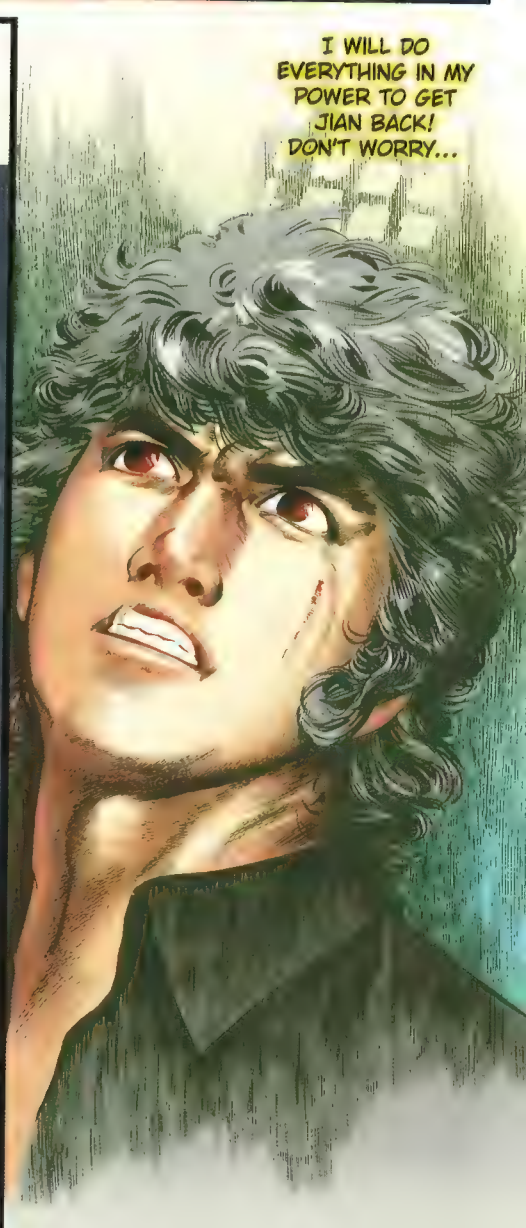
Jian realizes he's alive because Green King's body cushioned his fall.


LONG AGO, HERO SET UP A SMALL PRAYER ALTAR IN HIS ROOM, IN MEMORY OF WIFE JADE.


JADE... PLEASE PROTECT OUR SON!

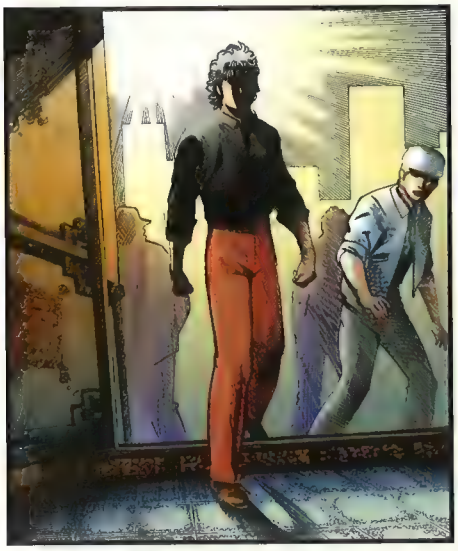
HERO RECEIVES SO MANY ADMIRING GLANCES THAT IT MAKES QING UNCOMFORTABLE.

MASTER SWORD SAINT... I MUST PROTECT MY SON! PLEASE FORGIVE ME...
Hero's turbulent energy causes the incense trail to swirl violently around the room.
Hero promised Sword Saint all those years ago, but because of him he must once more stand and fight

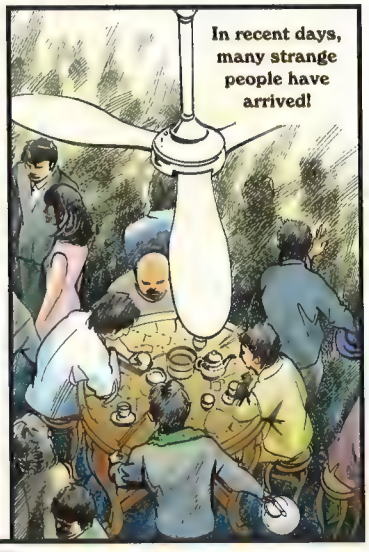

I WILL DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO GET JIAN BACK! DON'T WORRY...

China Tower at lunchtime is packed with people!

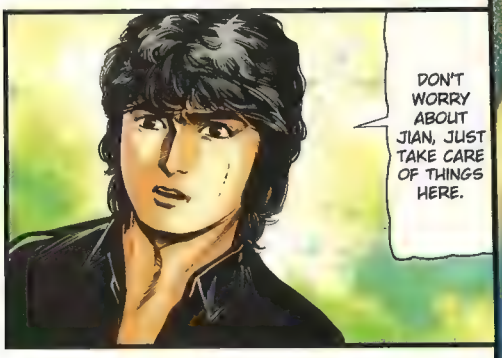
FOR FIFTEEN YEARS HE HAS LIVED A PEACEFUL LIFE, BUT NOW--WITH JIAN'S APPEARANCE--A NEW CHAPTER IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!
HE MUST ONCE AGAIN BECOME A "HERO."



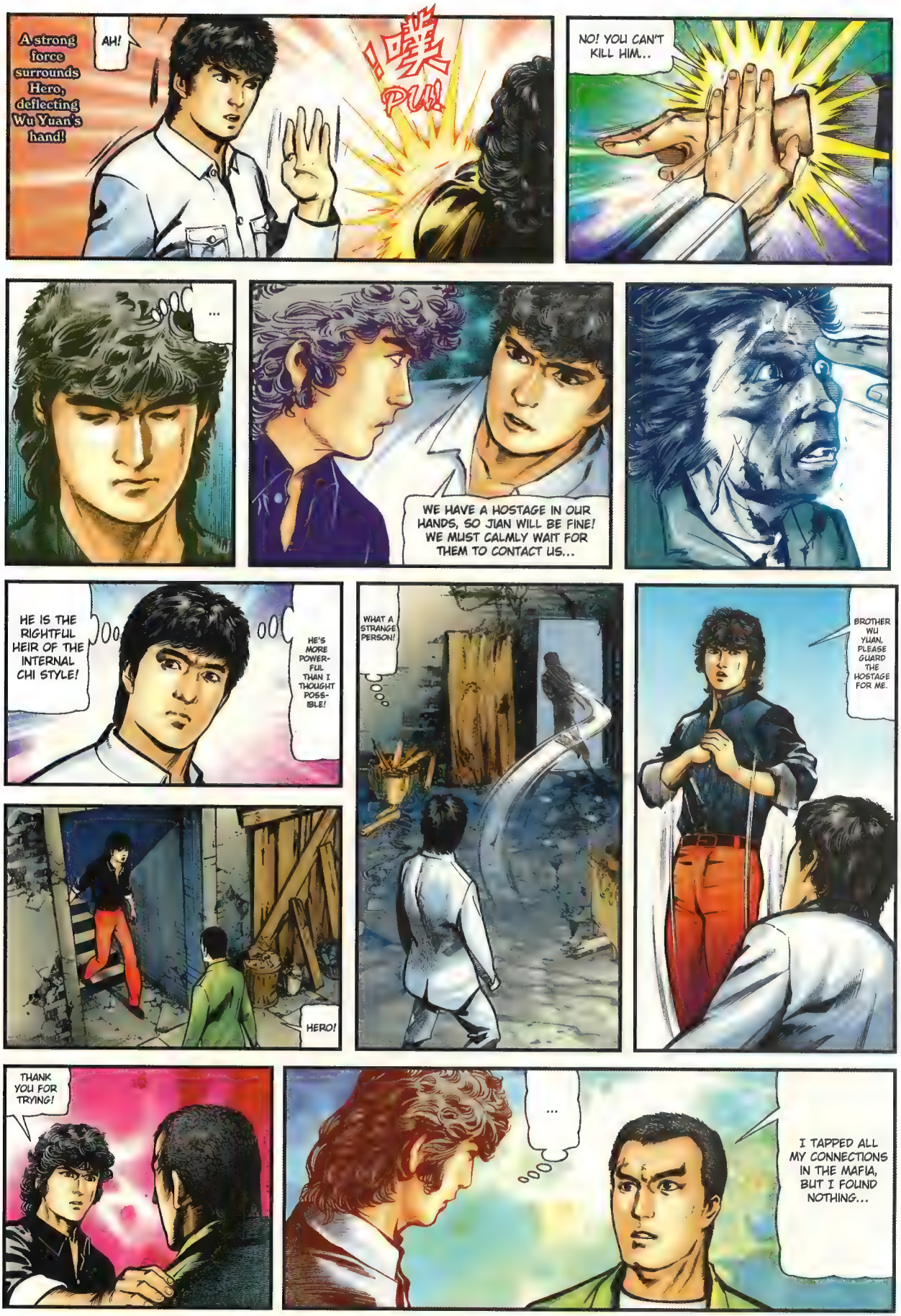
All eyes are on one person...!


In recent days, many strange people have arrived!

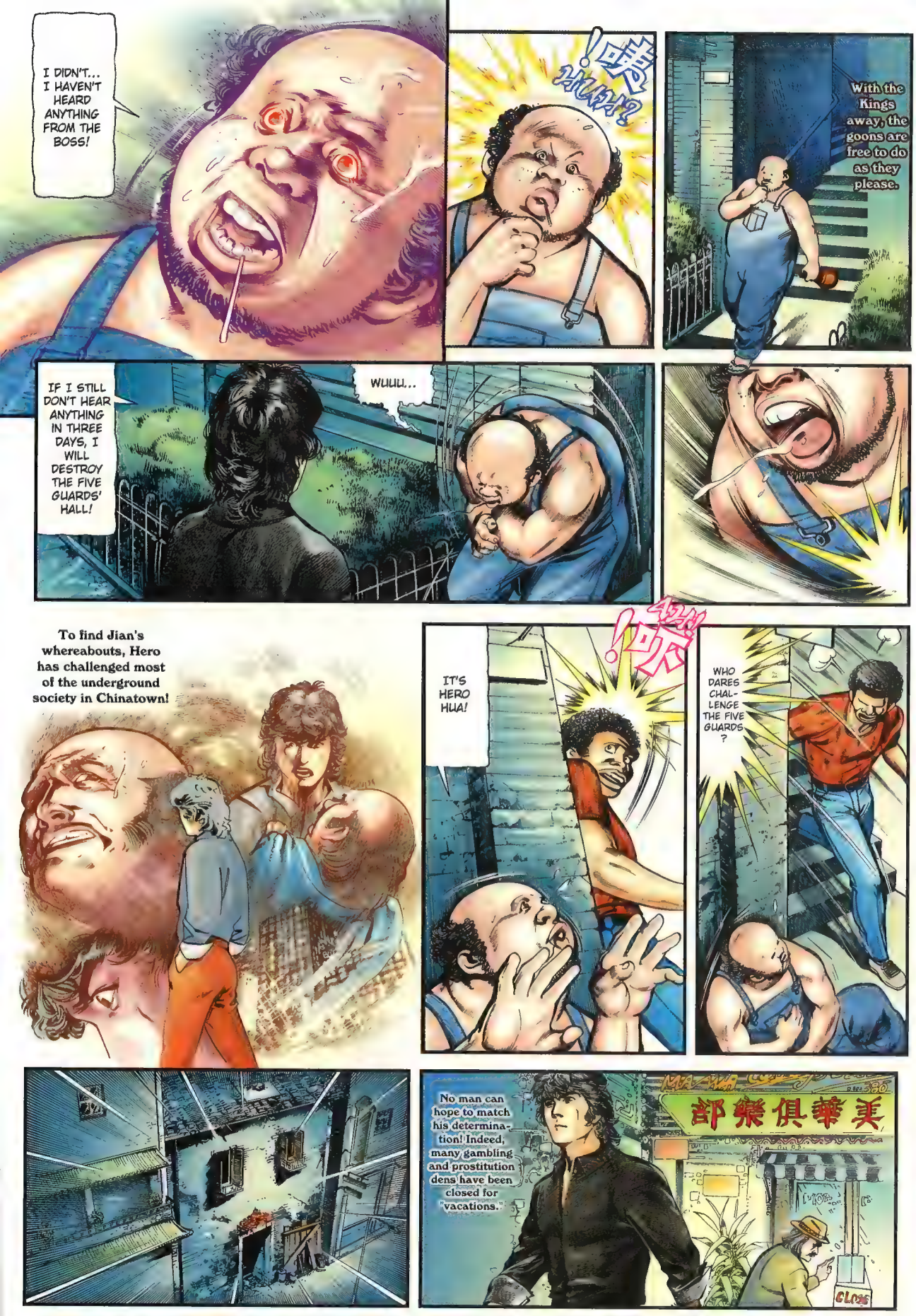
IS THERE NEWS OF JIAN?

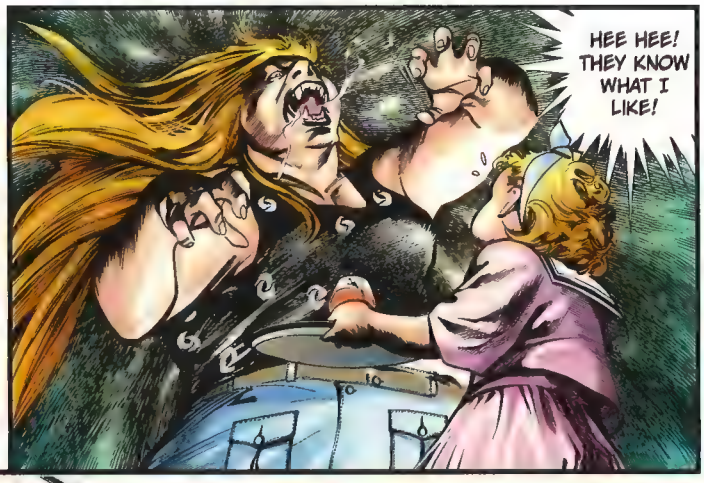

DON'T WORRY ABOUT JIAN, JUST TAKE CARE OF THINGS HERE.

HE'S NORMALLY SO QUIET AND HARD-WORKING. WHAT A MYSTERY!
The customers stare in awe at the only man who can strike fear into the hearts of the gangsters and miscreants in Chinatown.
IS THAT HIM?


A strong force surrounds Hero, deflecting Wu Yuan's hand!
AH!
啪!
PA!
NO! YOU CAN'T KILL HIM...
...
WE HAVE A HOSTAGE IN OUR HANDS, SO JIAN WILL BE FINE! WE MUST CALMLY WAIT FOR THEM TO CONTACT US...
HE IS THE RIGHTFUL HEIR OF THE INTERNAL CHI STYLE!
HE'S MORE POWERFUL THAN I THOUGHT POSSIBLE!
WHAT A STRANGE PERSON!
BROTHER WU YUAN, PLEASE GUARD THE HOSTAGE FOR ME.
HERO!
THANK YOU FOR TRYING!
...
I TAPPED ALL MY CONNECTIONS IN THE MAFIA, BUT I FOUND NOTHING...

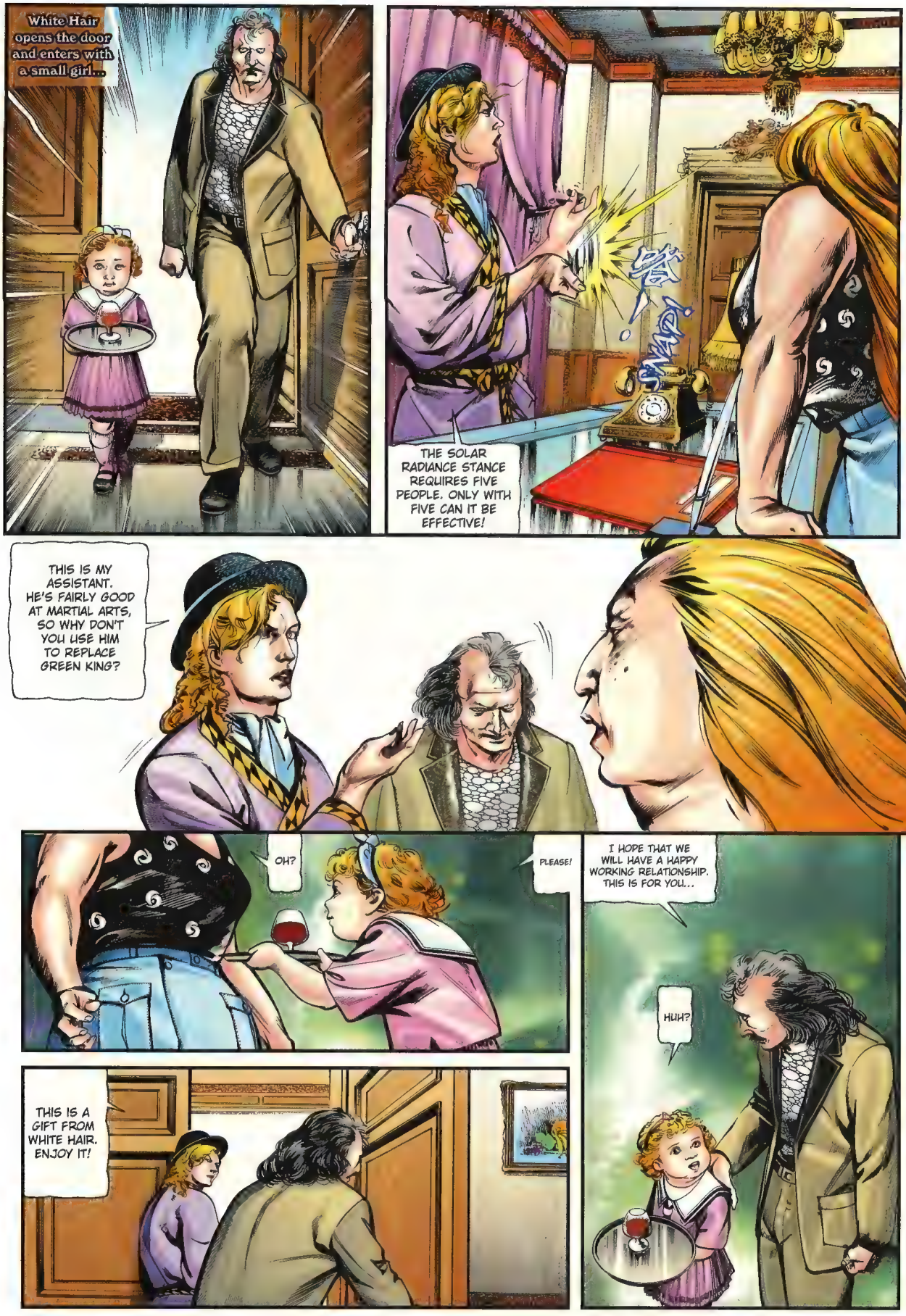
UM!
BROTHER HERO!
Wu Yuan closed Disease Man's major pressure points, which prevents him from moving.
I ASK YOU AGAIN, WHO IS THE PERSON THAT KIDNAPPED JIAN?
THE BLACK DRAGON GANG IS SHROUDED IN SECRECY. I CAN'T TELL YOU ANYTHING!
Hero's sharp glance forces the man to look away.
啊! AH!
呼! FU!
說! Tell me!


I DIDN'T... I HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING FROM THE BOSS!
With the Kings away, the goons are free to do as they please.
IF I STILL DON'T HEAR ANYTHING IN THREE DAYS, I WILL DESTROY THE FIVE GUARDS' HALL!
WUUU...
To find Jian's whereabouts, Hero has challenged most of the underground society in Chinatown!
IT'S HERO HUA!
WHO DARES CHAL-LENGE THE FIVE GUARDS?
No man can hope to match his determina-tion! Indeed, many gambling and prostitution dens have been closed for "vacations."
美華俱樂部
CLOSE



The stance is split into three movements, each holding a hundred killing possibilities! After practicing for only half a day, Red King already feels more confident that she can defeat her enemies.

ONCE WE LEARN THIS STANCE, OUR ABILITIES WILL INCREASE TENFOLD! WE WILL SURELY SUCCEED!

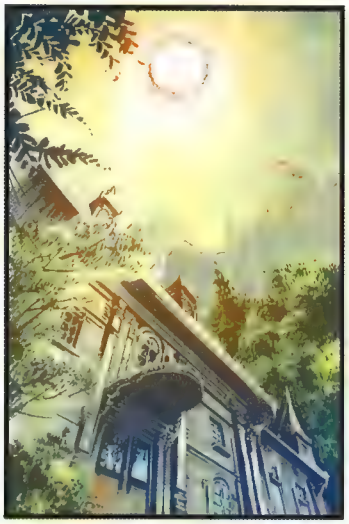

White Hair opens the door and enters with a small girl...
PA!
SNAP!
THE SOLAR RADIANCE STANCE REQUIRES FIVE PEOPLE. ONLY WITH FIVE CAN IT BE EFFECTIVE!
THIS IS MY ASSISTANT. HE'S FAIRLY GOOD AT MARTIAL ARTS, SO WHY DON'T YOU USE HIM TO REPLACE GREEN KING?
OH?
PLEASE!
I HOPE THAT WE WILL HAVE A HAPPY WORKING RELATIONSHIP. THIS IS FOR YOU...
HUH?
THIS IS A GIFT FROM WHITE HAIR. ENJOY IT!

THERE WAS A STRUG-GLE HERE!

THERE'S BLOOD HERE, AND IT HASN'T DRIED YET!

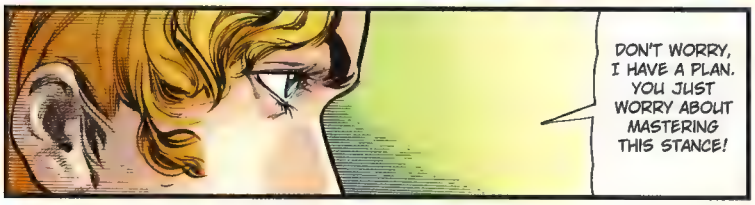
HEY, I THINK I FOUND SOME-THING!

THIS IS WHAT I WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH TO DEFEAT LOHAN AND THE OTHERS:
SOLAR RADIANCE



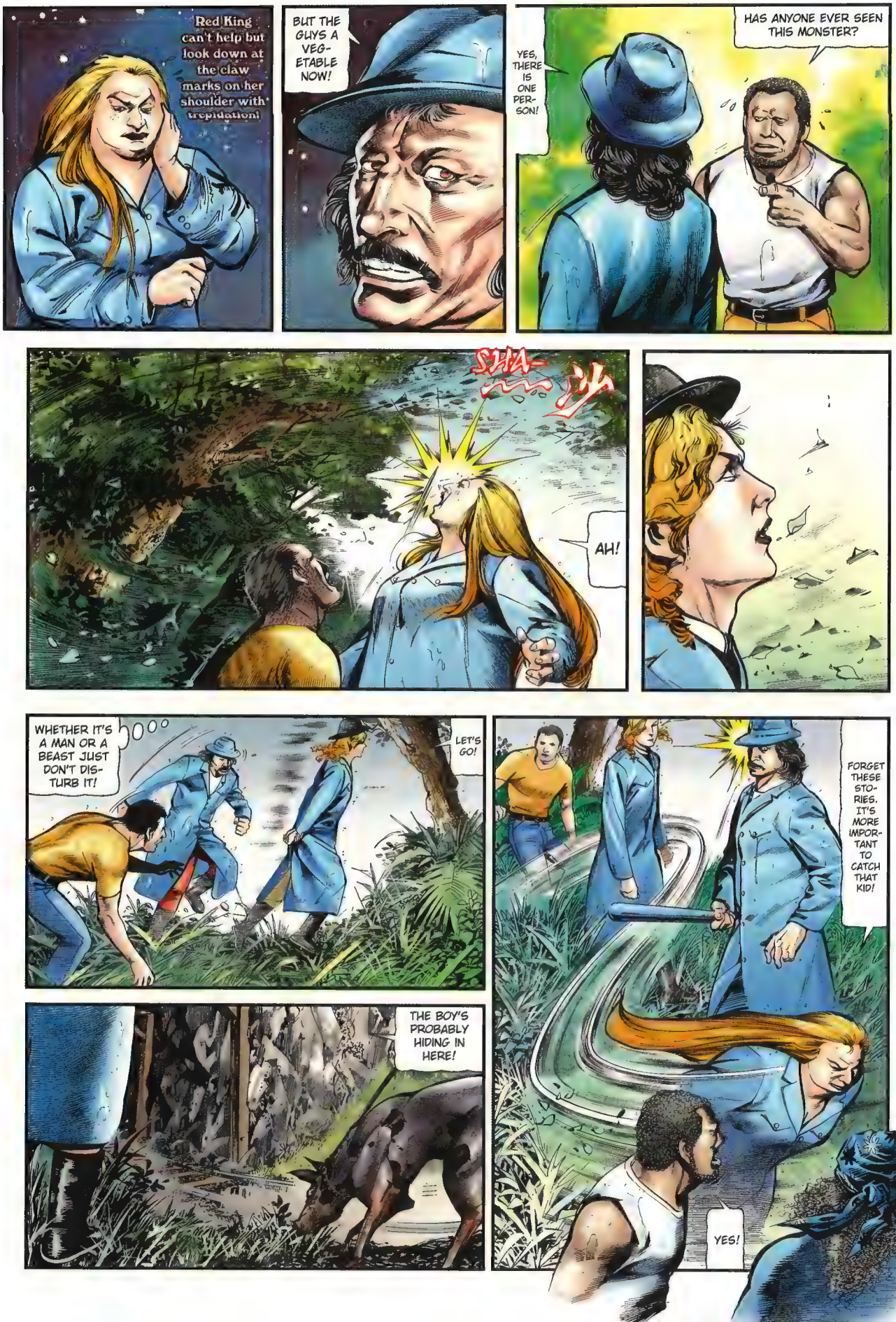
LOOK, THESE TATTERS OF CLOTHING MUST BELONG TO GREEN KING AND THE BOY!

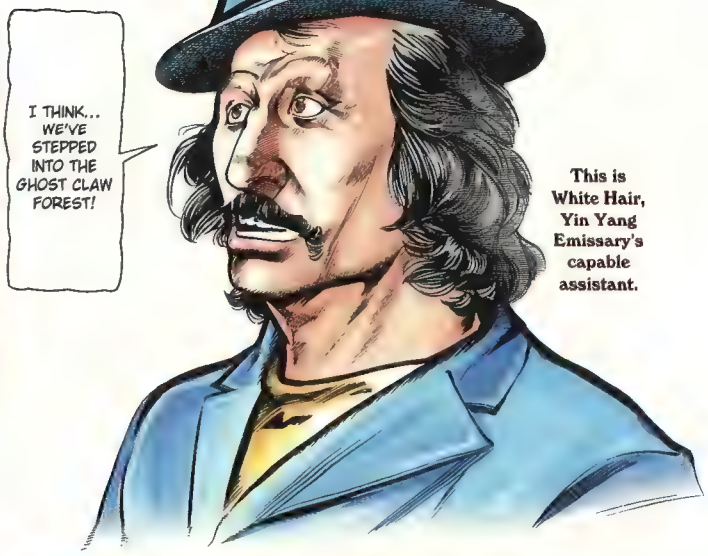
THE BOY IS ALREADY DEAD! HOW WILL WE EXCHANGE HOSTAGES?


DON'T WORRY, I HAVE A PLAN. YOU JUST WORRY ABOUT MASTERING THIS STANCE!

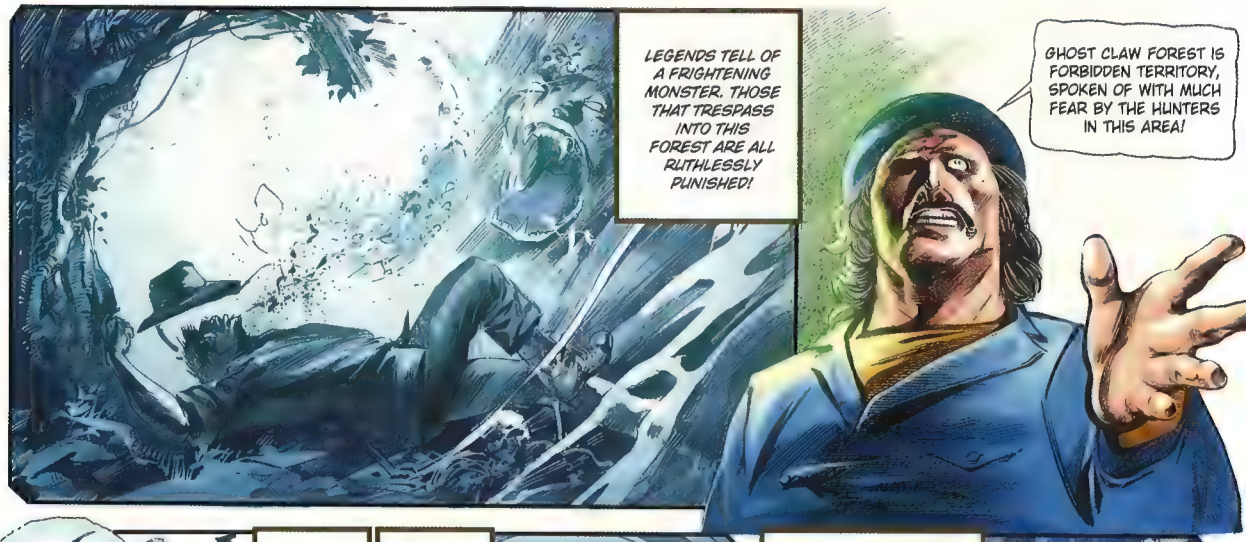
HMPH... THIS IS A COMPLEX FORM. THIS BOOK MUST BE VERY VALUABLE. WHY WOULD YOU GIVE IT TO US? WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?

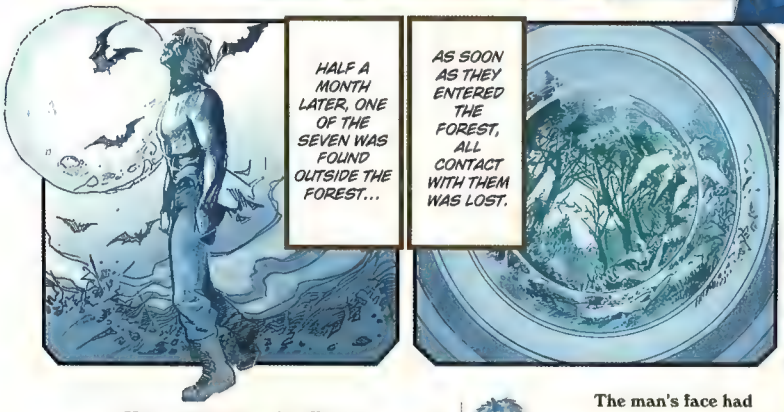
SOLAR RADIANCE IS VERY POWERFUL. IF YOU AND YOUR MEN PRACTICE IT DILIGENTLY, YOU CAN DEFEAT MANY POWERFUL ENEMIES...


Red King can't help but look down at the claw marks on her shoulder with trepidation!
BUT THE GUYS A VEG-ETABLE NOW!
HAS ANYONE EVER SEEN THIS MONSTER?
YES, THERE IS ONE PER-SON!
SHA-
AH!
WHETHER IT'S A MAN OR A BEAST JUST DON'T DIS-TURB IT!
LET'S GO!
FORGET THESE STO-RIES. IT'S MORE IMPOR-TANT TO CATCH THAT KID!
THE BOY'S PROBABLY HIDING IN HERE!
YES!

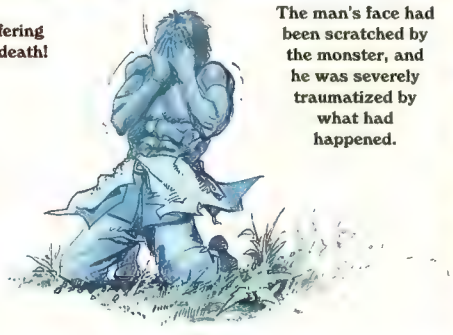


This is White Hair, Yin Yang Emissary's capable assistant.



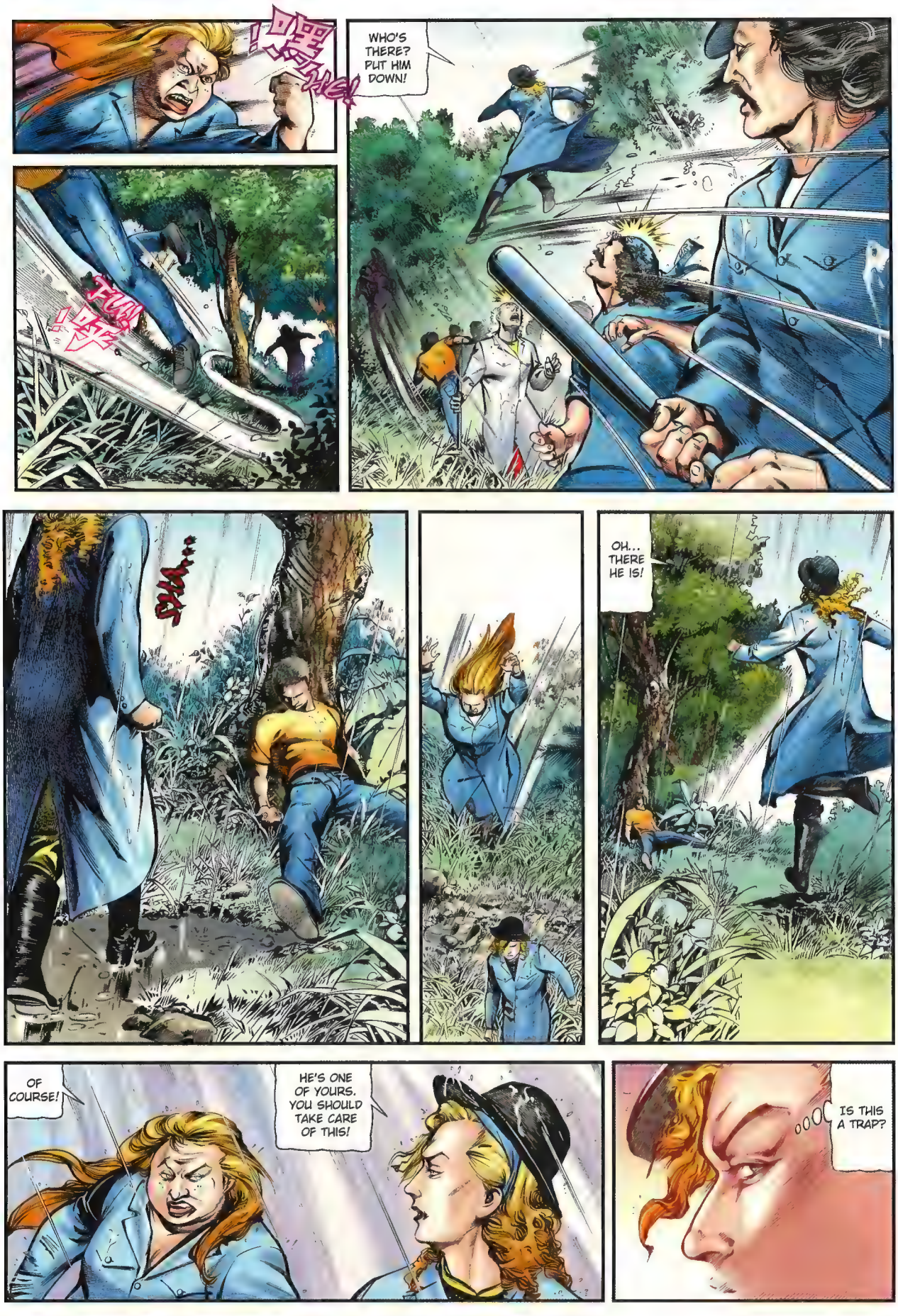


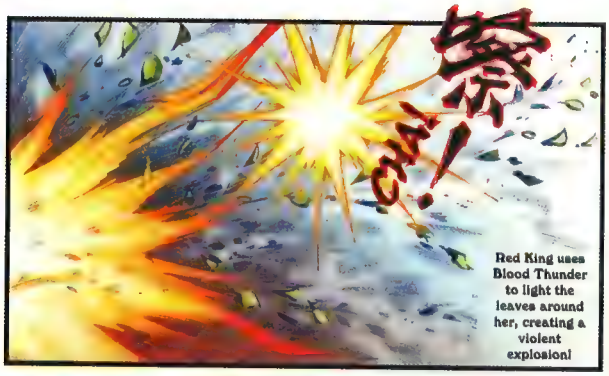
He never recovered, suffering a fate even crueler than death!



The man's face had been scratched by the monster, and he was severely traumatized by what had happened.

HEY... WHO ATTACK-ED YOU?
AH... NUMBER ONE!
PAH! 啪!
PAH! 啪!
...
THIS IS GHOST CLAW TERRI-TORY...
PAH, USE-LESS TRASH!
IT FELT LIKE I HAD A VISE ON MY THROAT. I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT WAS!
Red King is angry and uses the thug to let off some steam.
SIR, SEE ALL THE SMALL SCRATCH MARKS ALL OVER THIS FOREST!
YEAH, THEY'RE COVERED WITH CLAW MARKS!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN GHOST CLAW TERRITORY?


WHO'S THERE? PUT HIM DOWN!
OH... THERE HE IS!
OF COURSE!
HE'S ONE OF YOURS. YOU SHOULD TAKE CARE OF THIS!
IS THIS A TRAP?

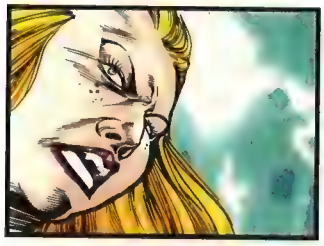

CHA!
Red King uses Blood Thunder to light the leaves around her, creating a violent explosion!

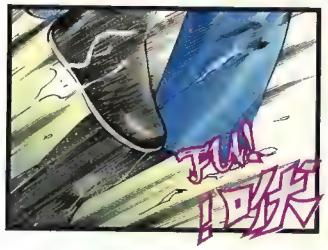
The mysterious cold air suddenly spins toward the sky!

WHAT IS THAT THING THAT ATTACKED RED KING?

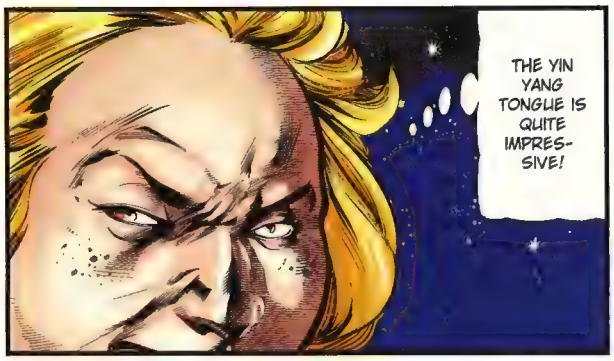
She notices small nail marks on her shoulder that look as though they were made by tiny claws!

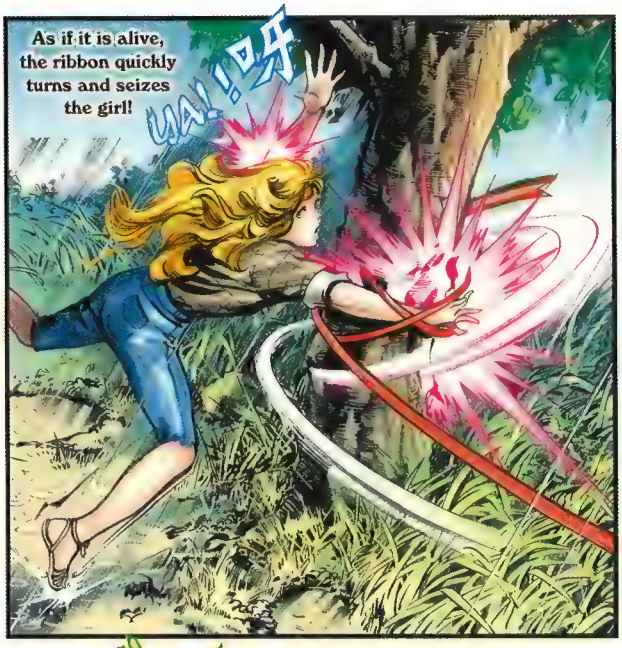
FENG
AS IF FIGHTING A BODILESS PHANTOM, BLOOD KING IS CHILLED TO THE BONE.



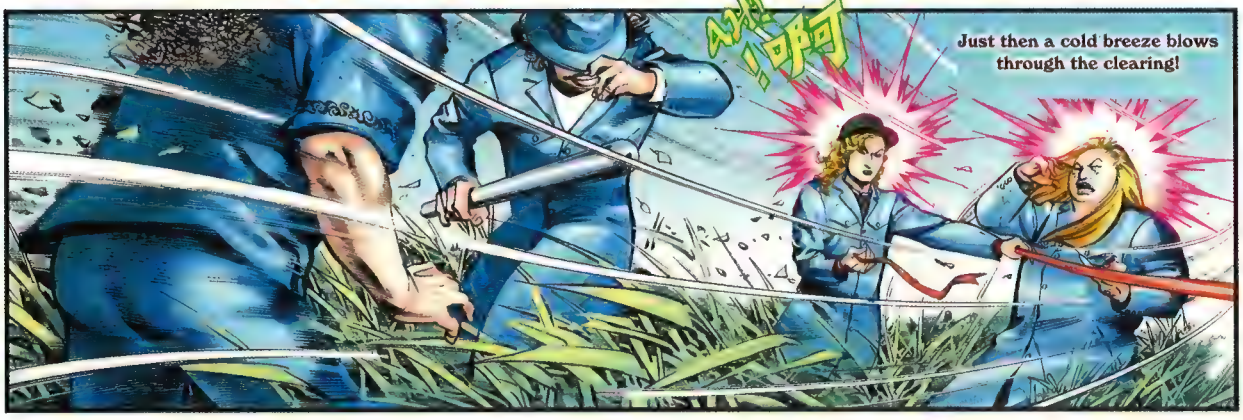

FU!

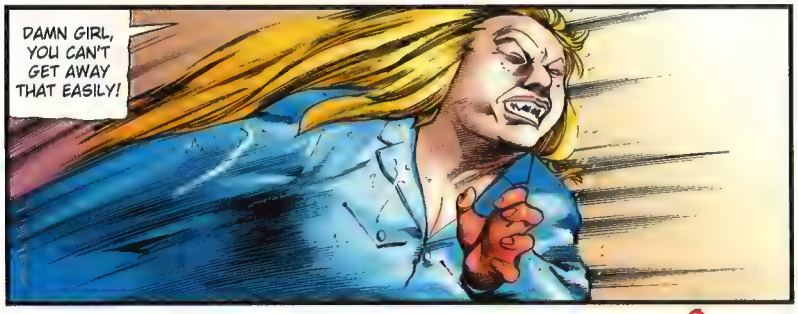
KUAH!!


THE YIN YANG TONGUE IS QUITE IMPRES-SIVE!

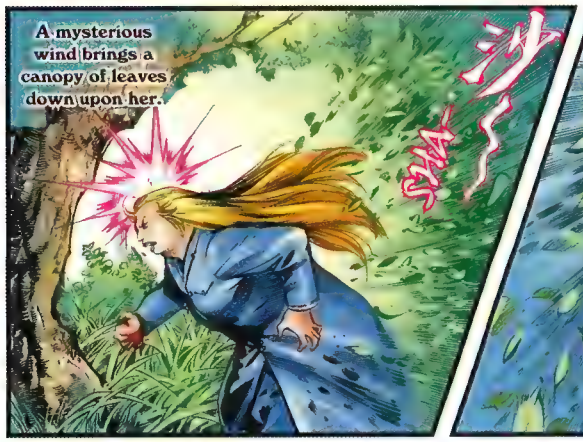

As if it is alive, the ribbon quickly turns and seizes the girl!
WA! 呀

WHERE IS HE? TELL ME NOW!

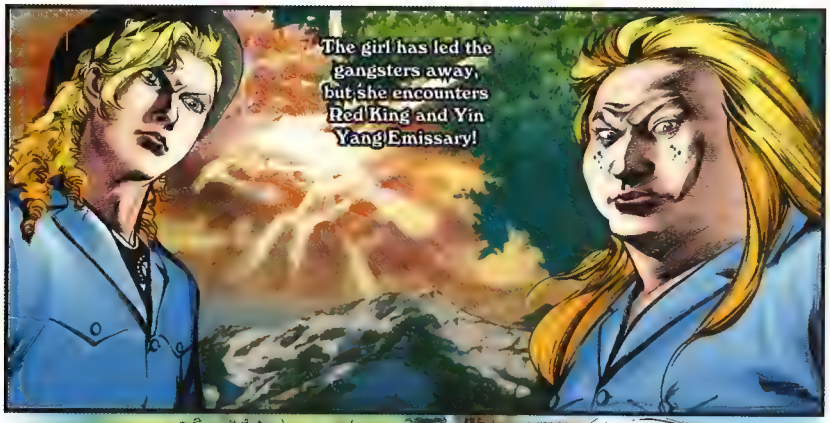

AH! 啊
Just then a cold breeze blows through the clearing!

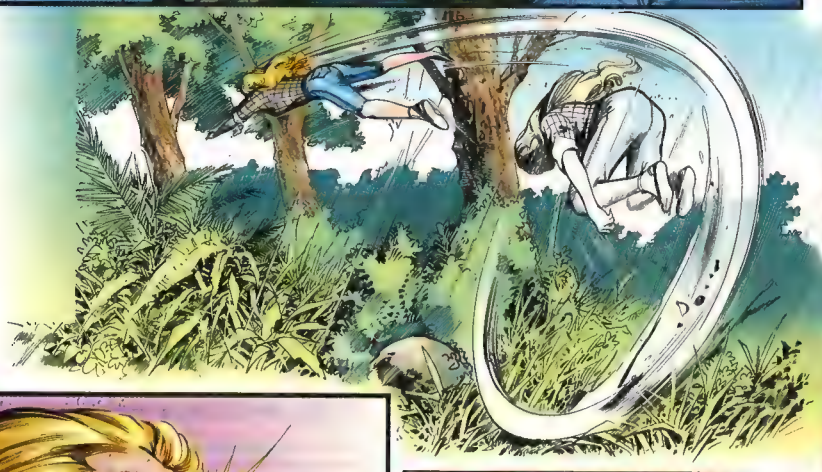

DAMN GIRL, YOU CAN'T GET AWAY THAT EASILY!

BYE-BYE!
WA! 呀
AH!

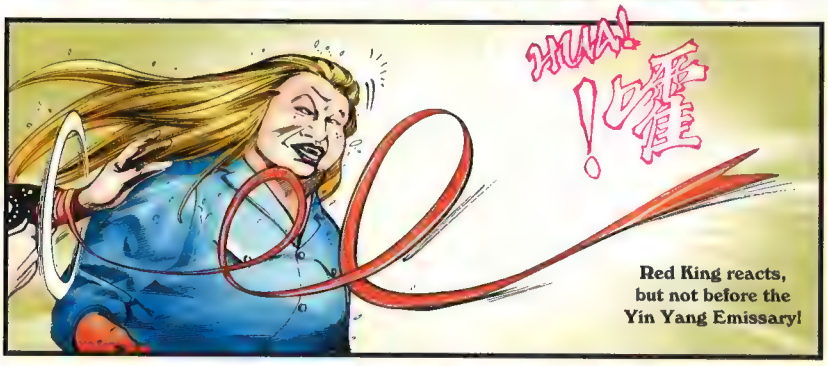

A mysterious wind brings a canopy of leaves down upon her.
SWISH 沙

FENCH! 飛
Sud-denly, Red King hears a noise from above!


The girl has led the gangsters away, but she encounters Red King and Yin Yang Emissary!



SHE KNOWS WHERE THE BOY IS! DON'T LET HER GET AWAY!


Red King reacts, but not before the Yin Yang Emissary!

YOU MAKE ME LOSE FACE IN FRONT OF ALL THESE PEOPLE!

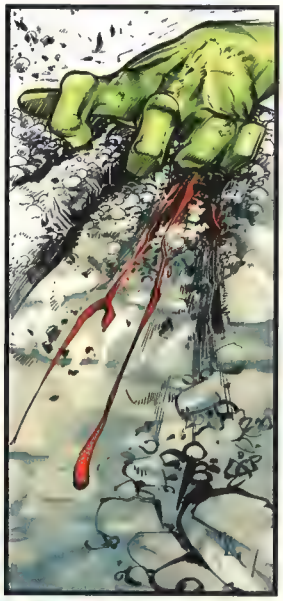
The hole is far deeper than they anticipated. They fall about twenty feet!

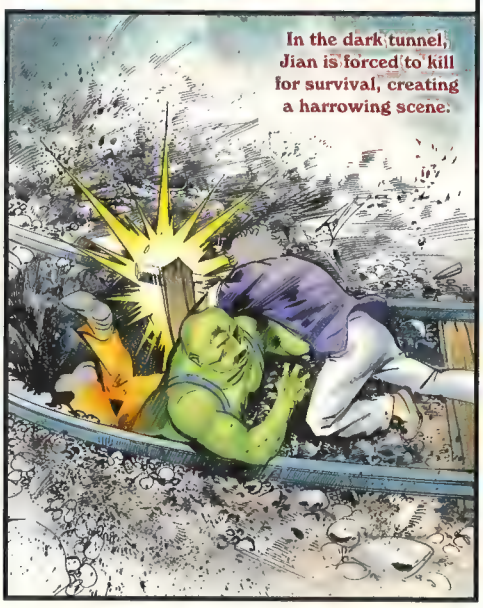
From the time he was a baby and Sheng Nu cared for him, he has never cried so. He has always been strong!
Killing is sometimes part of a martial artist's life, but for young Jian, who was raised on Sheng Nu's kindness, this dramatic scene will never be forgotten!
HE FORCED ME TO... I DIDN'T WANT TO KILL HIM! I... REALLY DIDN'T MEAN TO KILL HIM!
YOU'LL DIE WITH ME...
HE WILL HAUNT ME!
Ah, he's not dead yet!

Fueled by fear and adrenaline, Jian continues to drive the stick into Green King's back, despite the severity of his own wounds!
DIE...DIE...DIE...

AHH!

Exhaustion finally sets in!




In the dark tunnel, Jian is forced to kill for survival, creating a harrowing scene.

I killed someone!
Holding the bloody stake, his body shakes uncontrollably.
我真的杀了人...
I killed him...

...

殺了你！
I'll kill you!
SLAM!
BOOM!
DIE!
UA!
JIAN BLINDLY STABS DOWN!

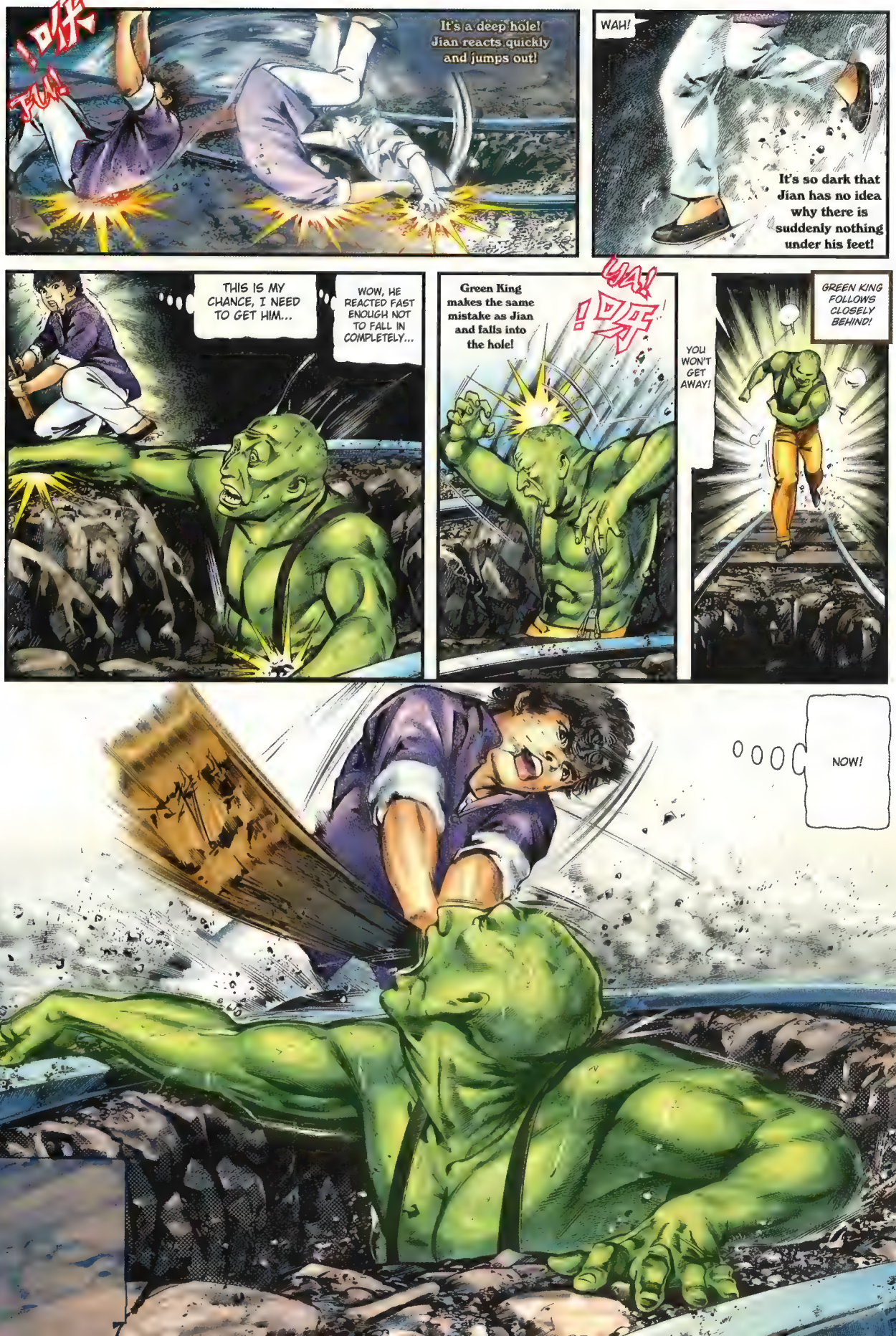
嘿！
HEI
哇！
WAH!
嗦！
CLAK
嘭！
BOOM!

CAN'T LET HIM STAND UP!
PUSH HIM DOWN THE HOLE...!
UP!
SMASH!
PAH!
AH!
FOOM!

But Green King is an Iron Skull practitioner. The piece of wood is no match!
!哐
BOOM!
!砰
BAM!

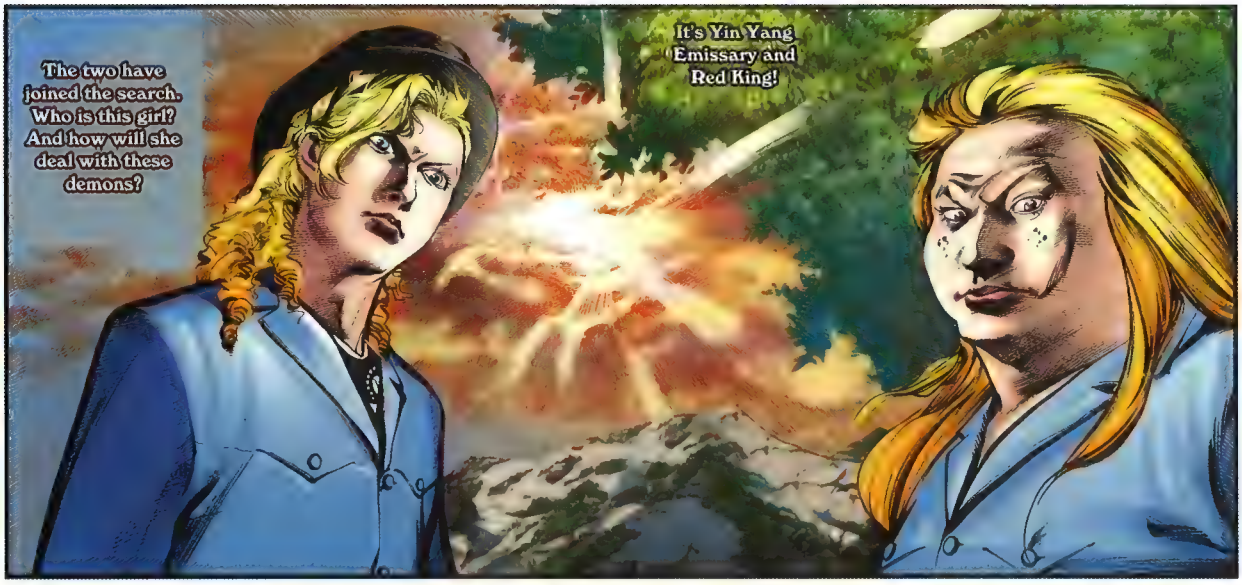
中華英雄
Chinese Hero
-Tales of the Blood Sword-

Chapter 23:
Solar Radiance


It's a deep hole! Jian reacts quickly and jumps out!
WAH!
It's so dark that Jian has no idea why there is suddenly nothing under his feet!
THIS IS MY CHANCE, I NEED TO GET HIM...
WOW, HE REACTED FAST ENOUGH NOT TO FALL IN COMPLETELY...
Green King makes the same mistake as Jian and falls into the hole!
YOU WON'T GET AWAY!
GREEN KING FOLLOWS CLOSELY BEHIND!
NOW!

IT'LL BE SAFER FOR ME IF I GO DEEPER INSIDE THIS MINE SHAFT!
FOOM!
FOOM!
SKSSH!

THERE'S NO PLACE TO RUN NOW!
AH!
KRNCH!
UA!
THMP!
FOOM!
BAM!


The two have joined the search. Who is this girl? And how will she deal with these demons?
It's Yin Yang Emissary and Red King!

HEE HEE HEE!
WHAT'S THAT?

Truthfully, Jian didn't want to involve the girl, so he purposefully goaded her into leaving.

SHA...SHA!

THIS TIME... YOU'RE ALL MINE!

HA HA! HIDING IN HERE, EH?

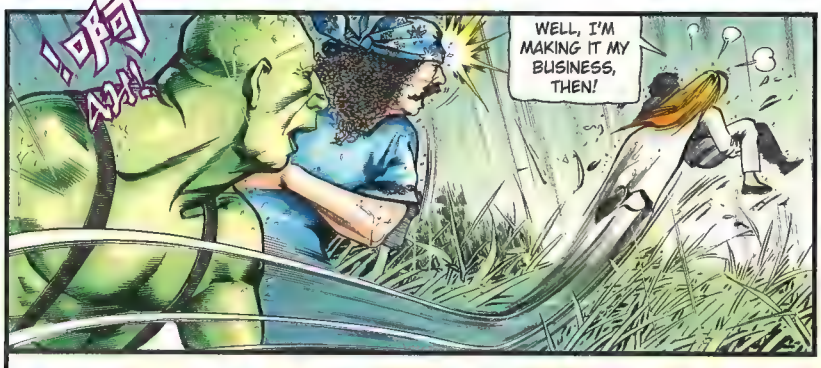
Get her!
SHE COULD GET AWAY EASILY... BUT SHE ISN'T LEAVING...
NOPE, I'M JUST OVER HERE!
SHE'S TRYING TO LURE US AWAY FROM SOME-THING...
AHH!
BAM!
YOU DARE TOY WITH ME GIRL, I'LL KILL YOU.
She is trying to lure the men away from Jian, of course.
HEE! HEE! YOU CAN'T GET AWAY NOW!
ON!
FIX!

AHA! SHE'S RIGHT THERE!
AH!
PAK!
SWA!
THAT'S THE GIRL THAT TOOK HIM AWAY!
SHO!
HA HA! NOT BAD!
WHAT KIND OF SKILL IS THAT?
HUH? SHE'S GONE!
After her!
PAH!

FORGET ABOUT FATHER, I DON'T EVEN HAVE HALF OF THAT GIRL'S SKILLS. I'M SO USELESS!
I'M ALWAYS BARELY ESCAPING WITH MY LIFE! I DON'T EVEN HAVE THE STRENGTH TO DEFEND MYSELF!
SHE'S ABOUT MY AGE, BUT SHE'S MUCH QUICKER THAN ME!
I DON'T EVER WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN!
THOSE TWO KIDS MUST BE IN THERE! HURRY!
HUH? THERE'S BLOOD HERE...
SCUM! I HATE YOU!
KILL HIM!
WHAT ARE THOSE GUYS GOING TO DO TO HIM?
THAT COLD-HEARTED BASTARD CAN'T ESCAPE THIS TIME!
OH NO, THEY'VE FOUND HIM...
FU!
NO.. THEY WOULDN'T ...

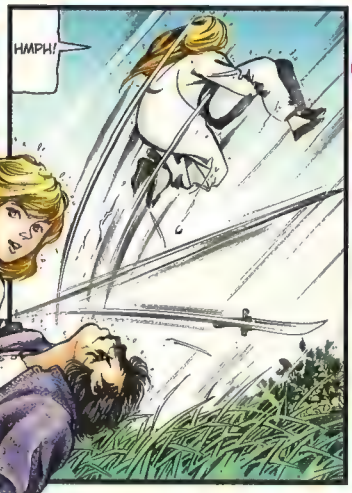
OH ...
I WRAPPED YOUR WOUNDS AND STOPPED THE BLEEDING... NO NEED TO THANK ME!
IT'S A GIRL!
From her voice, Jian realizes that this is the white-clothed ghost.
你 WOU...
YOU'RE LAUGHING SO WICKEDLY, PERHAPS YOU'VE ALREADY POISONED MY WOUNDS!
RIP!
IT'S DIFFICULT TO SEE INTO ANOTHER PERSON'S HEART! HOW DO I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE PLANNING?
EVEN IF YOU DIDN'T POISON ME, YOU PROBABLY THINK I'M HANDSOME AND WANT TO WIN MY HEART, IS THAT IT?
WHAT... YOU THINK THAT I'M A BAD PERSON AFTER ALL I'VE DONE FOR YOU?
TRASH! SCUM!
GO AHEAD AND LEAVE! I DON'T LIKE YOU!
I'LL NEVER GIVE MY HEART TO ANY ONE GIRL! YOUR PLOTTING WILL GET YOU NOWHERE!

SWISH!
ALL RIGHT!
THEY COULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN FAR! LET'S SPLIT UP AND SEARCH!
I SEE BLOOD IN THE WATER, THE KID WAS BADLY HURT.
In a nearby abandoned mine shaft...
AM I DOING THE RIGHT THING?
ACTUALLY, I SHOULD GIVE HIM A GOOD THRASHING!
I EVEN BANDAGED HIS WOUNDS!
IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE FOR ME TO SAVE HIM!
OH...?
DON'T MOVE, YOUR WOUNDS HAVEN'T CLOSED YET!
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING ABOUT?
HE HE, HE'S AWAKE, WILL HE BE GRATEFUL AND THANK ME, OR KNEEL DOWN AT ME FEET AND ASK FOR FORGIVENESS?


啊
AHH!
WELL, I'M MAKING IT MY BUSINESS, THEN!

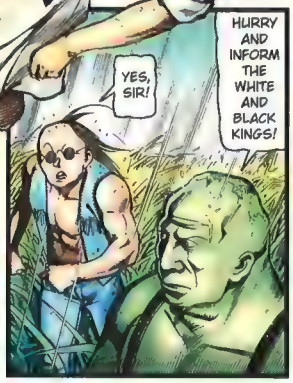
風
FOOSH!

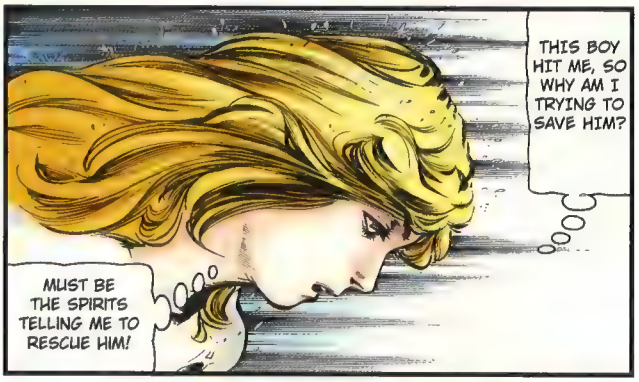
The young girl carries Jian without slowing at all!

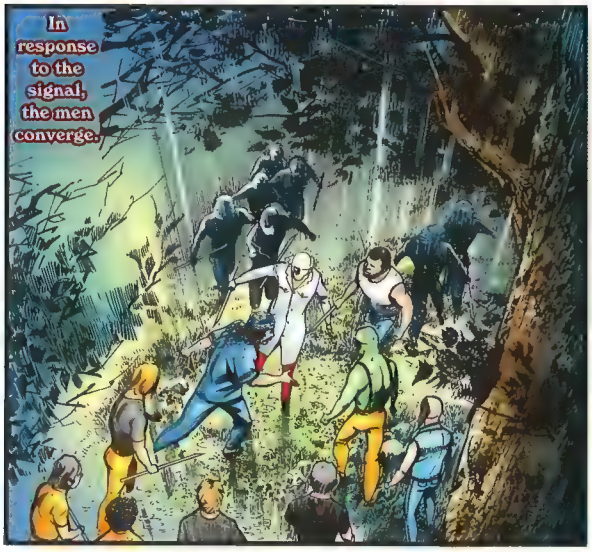

HMPH!

住手!
PUT HIM DOWN!

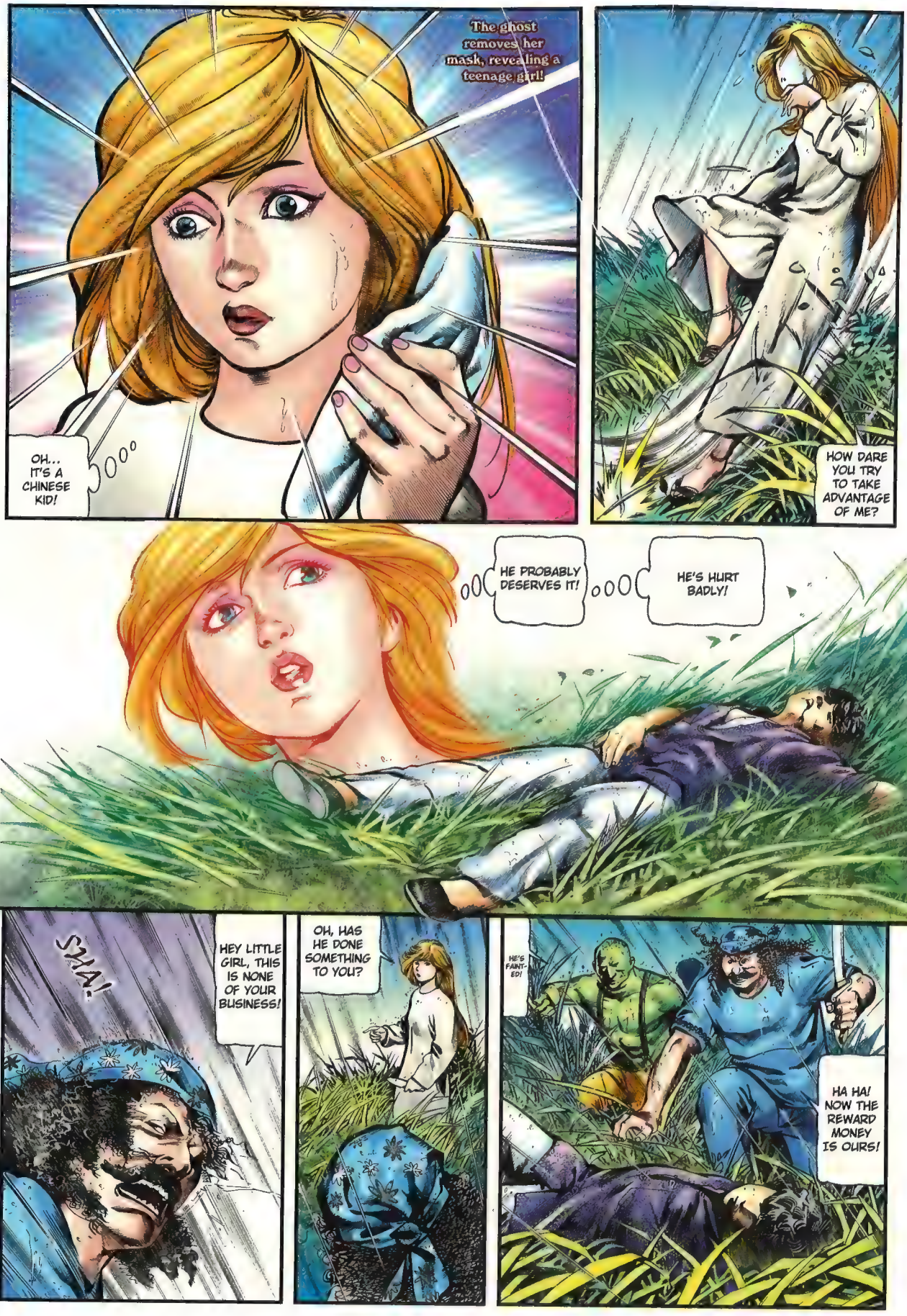
YUM!
The goon sends out the signal!


YES, SIR!
HURRY AND INFORM THE WHITE AND BLACK KINGS!


THIS BOY HIT ME, SO WHY AM I TRYING TO SAVE HIM?
MUST BE THE SPIRITS TELLING ME TO RESCUE HIM!

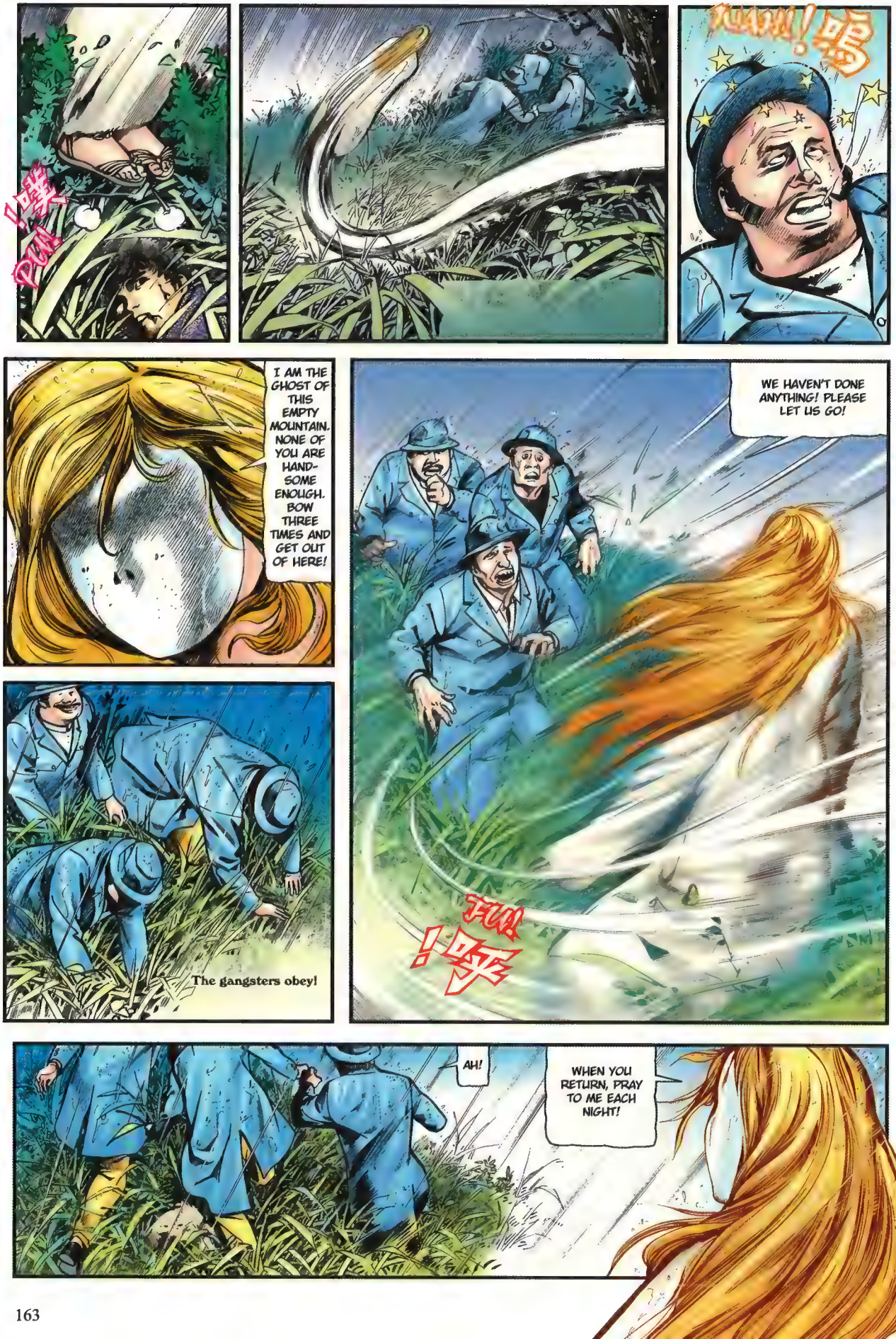

In response to the signal, the men converge.

The young girl moves swiftly and knows the mountains well. She soon disappears from sight!


The ghost removes her mask, revealing a teenage girl!
OH... IT'S A CHINESE KID!
HOW DARE YOU TRY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ME?
HE PROBABLY DESERVES IT!
HE'S HURT BADLY!
SHA!
HEY LITTLE GIRL, THIS IS NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
OH, HAS HE DONE SOMETHING TO YOU?
HE'S FAINTED!
HA HA! NOW THE REWARD MONEY IS OURS!

YOU... YOU...
YOU SLAPPED ME FIRST, SO I GAVE IT BACK TO YOU WITH INTEREST...
!拍 PAH!
PAH! PAH!
走開! Get away!
!嗚 UU!
The last of Jian's strength leaves him, and he collapses!
I'LL NEVER GIVE UP...
There he is!
AH!

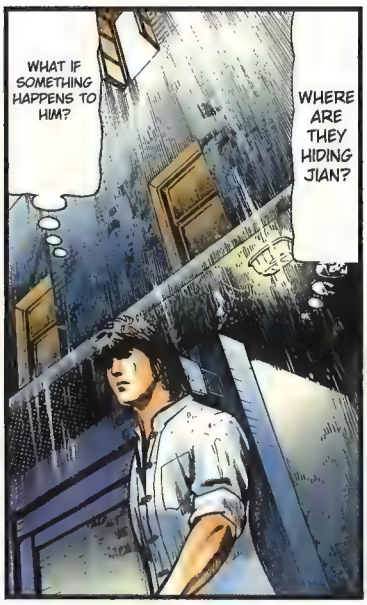
THOUGH HE'S HURT BADLY, JIAN'S CURIOSITY IS PIQUED. HE WANTS TO FIND OUT WHO THIS GHOST IS.
YOU THINK YOU CAN FOOL ME WITH YOUR GHOST SCAM?
With the gangsters gone, the "ghost" laughs out loud.
The ghost is clearly no ordinary person.
DARN YOU!
YOU MADE MY CLOTHES DIRTY!
PAH!
HMPH! IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
I'M NO FOOL YOU KNOW.
OH!


I AM THE GHOST OF THIS EMPTY MOUNTAIN. NONE OF YOU ARE HAND-SOME ENOUGH. BOW THREE TIMES AND GET OUT OF HERE!
The gangsters obey!
WE HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING! PLEASE LET US GO!
AH!
WHEN YOU RETURN, PRAY TO ME EACH NIGHT!

IF I DON'T LEAVE NOW, THE HOUNDS WILL FIND ME AGAIN!
He's lost a lot of blood and he's exhausted. His willpower alone keeps him moving forward.
Upon waking, Jian finds his shoulder throbbing in pain...
DAMN, THOSE GANGSTERS STILL HAVEN'T GIVEN UP...
While searching the forest, the gangsters run into a faceless ghost!
COME... WHY DON'T YOU STAY WITH ME!

JIAN IS A SMART BOY. HE WILL BE FINE!

UNCLE, YOU'LL CATCH A COLD STANDING OUT HERE IN THE RAIN!

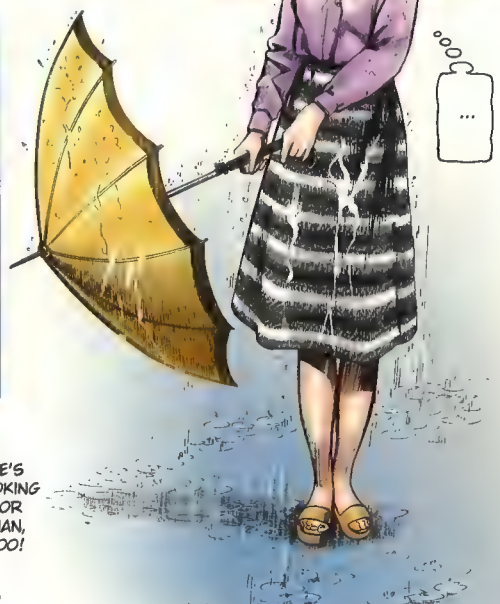

WHERE ARE THEY HIDING JIAN?
WHAT IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO HIM?

HAS MY KINDNESS CAUSED JIAN'S TROUBLES?
SWISH! SWISH!

I WISH TO BE ALONE!

It continues to rain the next morning...
HAVING NARROWLY ESCAPED DEATH, JIAN FAINTS FROM EXHAUSTION.

OH?
HE'S LOOKING FOR JIAN, TOO!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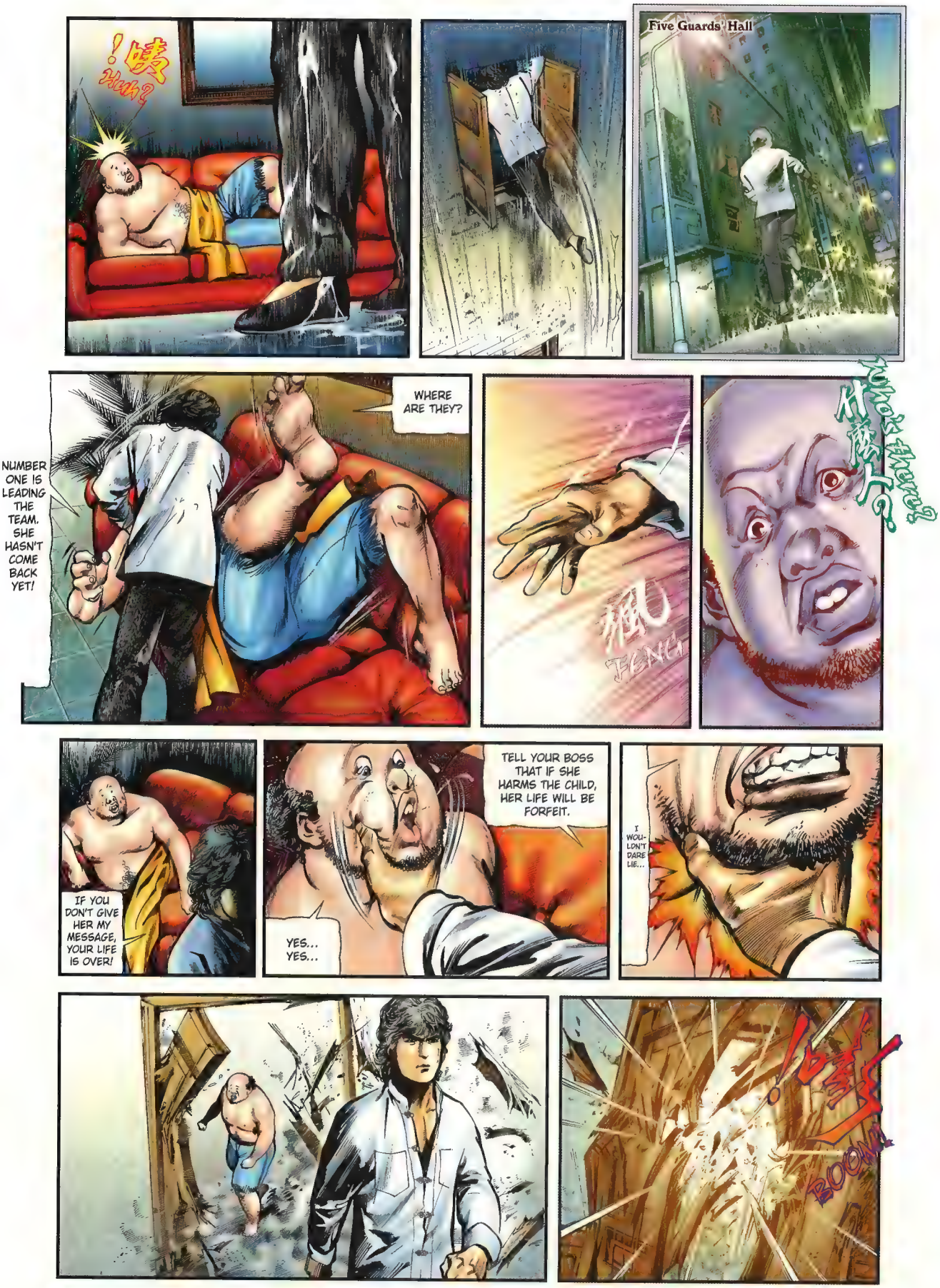
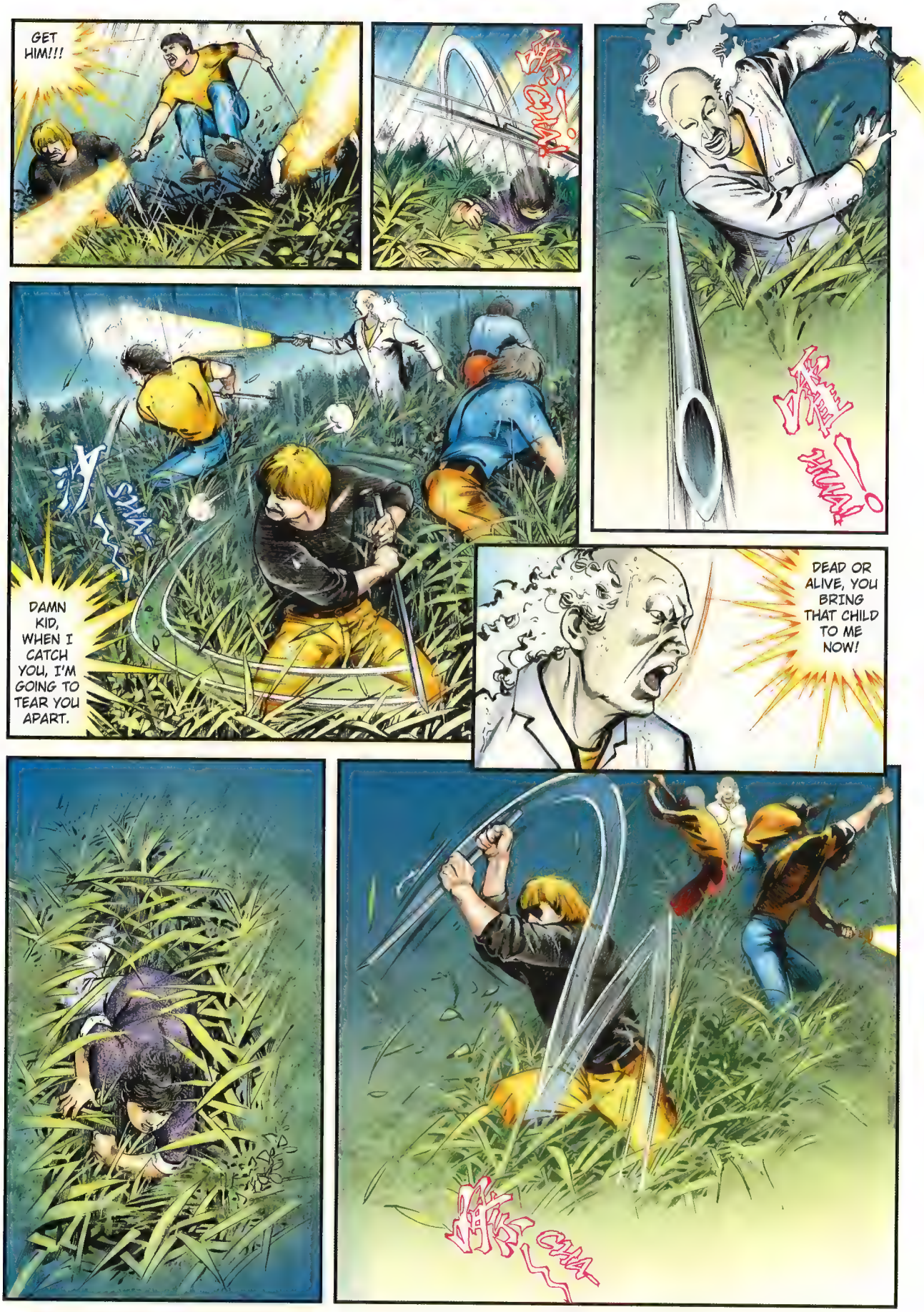

Five Guards' Hall
嗖!
Huh?
WHERE ARE THEY?
NUMBER ONE IS LEADING THE TEAM. SHE HASN'T COME BACK YET!
FENG
Zhao's there?
什麼人?
IF YOU DON'T GIVE HER MY MESSAGE, YOUR LIFE IS OVER!
TELL YOUR BOSS THAT IF SHE HARMS THE CHILD, HER LIFE WILL BE FORFEIT.
YES... YES...
I WOULDN'T DARE LIE...
BOOM!

HIS STYLE INCORPORATES ALL KNOWN TECHNIQUES AND STRENGTHENS EACH ONE. I HAVE NOT SEEN HIM USE IT IN THIRTY-FIVE YEARS, BUT I BELIEVE HIS SWORD STYLE MAY BE EVEN MORE IMPRESSIVE THAN HIS PALM STYLE!
WHAT SWORD STYLE DOES HE SPECIAL-IZE IN?
I WANT TO OPEN A MARTIAL ARTS SCHOOL IN CHINATOWN TO TEACH AND SPREAD CHINESE KUNG FU TO OTHERS!
I CAME HERE AT THE URGENT REQUEST OF MY UNCLE, BUT I ALSO CAME TO FULFILL MY DREAM.
BROTH-ER WU YUAN, WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO AFTER THIS? RETURN TO CHINA?
I HOPE THAT YOU WILL CAST ASIDE YOUR PERSONAL AMBITIONS, AND INSTEAD CHOOSE TO TEACH KUNG FU TO OTHERS. IT IS THE HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT OF A MARTIAL ARTIST!
BROTHER LOHAN, YOU AND HERO ARE EACH HIGHLY SKILLED. WHY DON'T YOU HELP ADVANCE THE ART OF KUNG FU?
GOOD IDEA!
IN MY SCHOOL THERE IS NO DIVISION WHEN WE SHARE THE SAME GOALS. YOU WILL BE MY EQUAL!
WHEN THE TIME COMES, I'LL SUPPORT YOU AND HELP TEACH AS YOUR ASSISTANT.
Lohan has roamed aimlessly for almost half his life. Wu Yuan's words fill him with a sense of purpose!

SHA...SHA...
SHA...
Silver Hawk awakens from the drug!
JIAN?
Back near China Tower.
HERO IS A POWERFUL FIGHTER AS WELL! HE'S USING ONE OF THE MOST FORMIDABLE INTERNAL CHI GONG TECHNIQUES, THE INFINITE HEDRON PALM RIGHT?
SQUAK
THERE'S ANOTHER THING THAT MIGHT INTEREST YOU. HERO IS NOT ONLY A MASTER OF INFINITE HEDRON, BUT HE'S ALSO AN EXPERT SWORDSMAN.
I'VE BEEN LUCKY ENOUGH TO WITNESS TWO INCREDIBLE TECHNIQUES ON THIS JOURNEY!
THAT'S RIGHT!

A cobra stops two yards away from Jian, staring at him intently!
嗖
Jian smiles bitterly, cursing his bad luck!
WE CAN'T KEEP STABBING AROUND BLINDLY LIKE THIS! LET'S SPLIT UP AGAIN AND WIDEN THE SEARCH AREA!
Jian must neither move nor make a sound!
喀！
CHK!


GET HIM!!!
DAMN KID, WHEN I CATCH YOU, I'M GOING TO TEAR YOU APART.
DEAD OR ALIVE, YOU BRING THAT CHILD TO ME NOW!

HA HA! TAKE THE KID BACK AND WE'LL CLAIM THE REWARD!
JIAN FALLS FROM THE TREE, AND THE GANGSTERS GATHER AROUND HIM.
THAT MONEY IS OURS!
AH!
THIS IS A GOOD PLACE TO ESCAPE!

OKAY!
THE KID WENT THAT WAY! YOU GO AROUND TO THE LEFT AND I'LL CIRCLE AROUND TO THE RIGHT!
Jian dodges, but his cheek is grazed!
嗤 CHUCK!
HEE HEE, GOTCHA!
AH!
LUCKILY, THE RAIN MAKES IT HARD FOR THE DOGS TO CATCH MY SCENT.
THINK I WOULDN'T FIND YOU HIDING IN THAT TREE?
哇! 呀!

I GOTTA KEEP GOING!
AOK!
WOOF-WOOF-WOOF
The mountain roads are treacherous, and Jian is growing tired.
THE MUDDY GROUND LEAVES CLEAR PRINTS FOR THE HOUNDS TO FOLLOW!
HUH?
By using Gecko Seizing Dragon Style, he slowly maneuvers up the tree with no problem!
Using his small frame to his advantage, he makes good time through the bushes.
Surrounded by enemies, Jian dives into the undergrowth to try and escape.

WHO-EVER CAP-TURES THE BOY WILL BE AWARDED $20,000. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THAT?
THEY'RE STILL RECOVERING FROM THE LAST BATTLE, SO GO EASY ON THEM!
To capture Jian, Yin Yang Emissary is forced to use Red King's men!
THE BOY IS THE MOST CRITICAL PART OF MY PLAN. I CAN'T LET HIM GET AWAY!
The other four Kings rally and head out with their men.
The Red King feels that she is above such tasks and does not join the search.
THEY WON'T REFUSE THAT KIND OF MONEY.
LET'S SPLIT UP INTO FOUR GROUPS AND SEARCH EACH DIREC-TION!
THE COMPETITION BETWEEN THE TWO GROUPS UPS THE MORALE.
DON'T WORRY NUMBER ONE, WE'LL FIND THE KID!
GET OUT THERE AND DON'T MAKE US LOOK BAD!
Jian runs aimlessly onward, knowing only that he has to get as far away as possible!
THE FOUR KINGS WERE ONCE MOUNTAIN BANDITS, SO THIS IS THEIR SPECIALTY.

After five minutes have passed, they decide to split into groups and search the surrounding area.
The gangsters cast their flashlights upon the fast flowing stream to search for Jian, but there is no sign of him!
SHA...
PAH!
PU!
Jian cleverly tosses a few stones to draw them away.
The gangsters give up, and report their failure to Yin Yang Emissary.
He's calm and thinks fast on his feet!
Jian heads in the opposite direction.

WOOT...
SHA...
HEY, HE DISAPPEARED! WHERE DID HE GO?
DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!
HE MUST BE HIDING IN THE WATER!

生死一線間
A Thin Line Between Life and Death
THE YIN YANG EMISSARY HAS RELEASED THE HOUNDS. JIAN IS FORCED TO LEAP DOWN THE STEEP SLOPE INTO THE FOREST...
WOOF! WOOF!
THE GANGSTERS FOLLOW CLOSELY BEHIND.
咲!
FU!
啪
PAO!

中華英雄
Chinese Hero

-Tales of the Blood Sword-

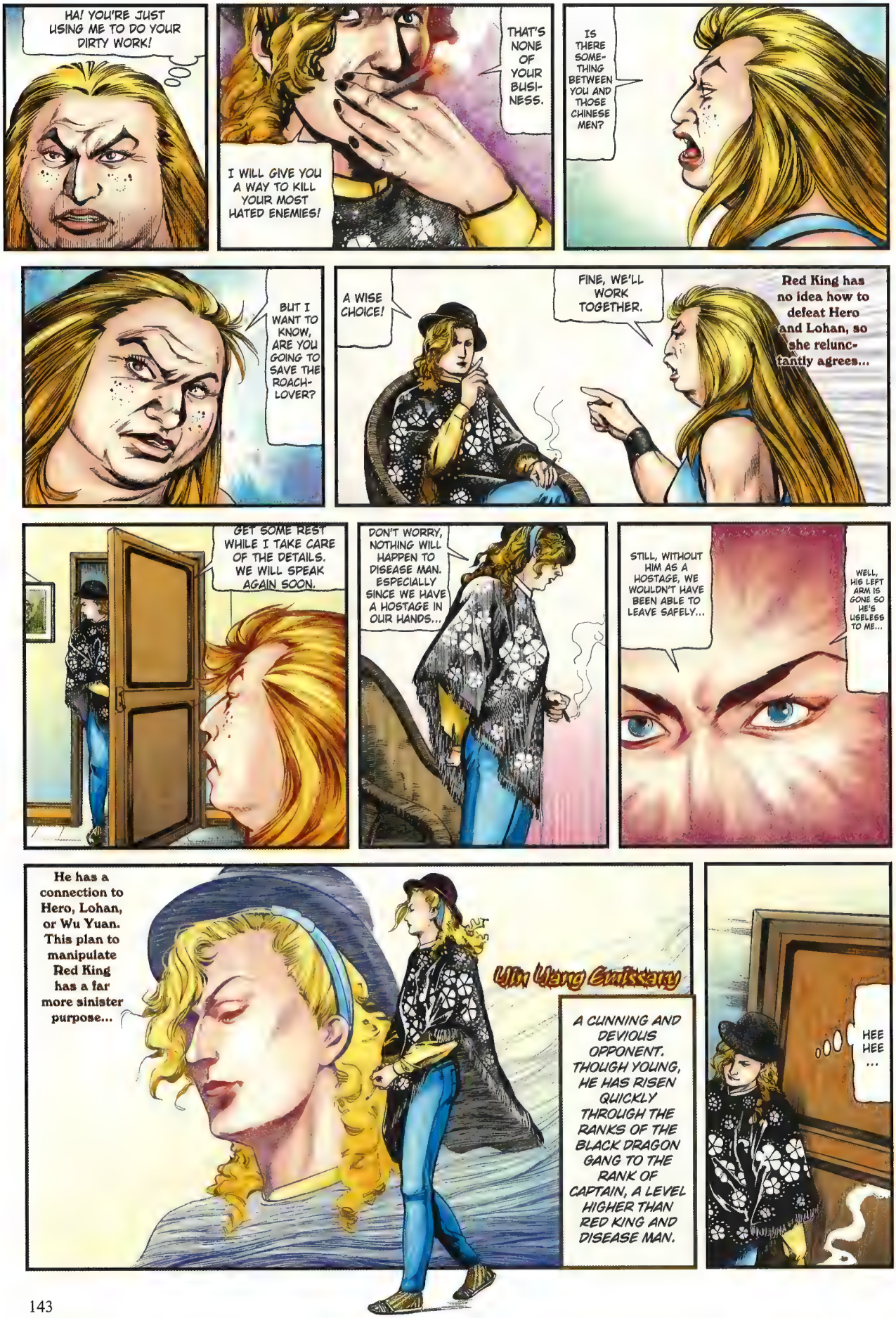
Chapter 22:
A Thin Line Between Life and Death

WOOF...WOOF WOOF
WOOF-WOOF
YA!
ROAR!
ESCAPING INTO THE RAINY NIGHT, JIAN MUST FACE THE THREAT OF RECAPTURE AND DEATH!

WHO'S THERE?
SHA...
SHA...
HA!
UA!
The gangsters immediately bring out the hounds and begin the search.
DON'T LET THE KID ESCAPE NO MATTER WHAT! FIND HIM FOR ME NOW!
OH ...
I'VE GOTTA LET THE EMIS-SARY KNOW!

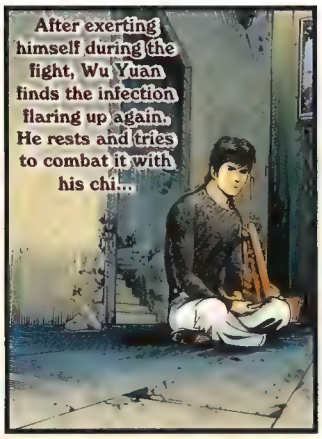
SEE YOU! LATER!
HEY, THERE'S A SECRET TUNNEL HERE!
CLICK!
IS THERE REALLY A SECRET TUNNEL?
Using a move that he learned from the Heaven Scrolls, Jian had pressed himself tightly against the ceiling to remain hidden from view.
HUH? WHERE IS HE?
HUH, WHERE'D HE GO?
Directly outside the prison is a garden.
IDIOT...
BAM!
HEY!

THERE'S NO ONE AROUND ...
Jian is as strong as an ox. Though Red King struck him down with Blood Thunder earlier, he has already completely recovered.
GIVE ME SOME FOOD...
IN A SMALL PRISON IN THE MANSION...
WHAT DO YOU WANT PUNK?
BAM! BAM!
BAM!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
BUT THIS PRISON IS LINED WITH STONE ON ALL SIDES!
I'M GOING TO DIG A TUNNEL OUT OF HERE!
BAM! BAM!
DAMN, THAT'S IRRITATING!
BAM! BAM! BAM!
BAM! BAM! BAM! BAM! BAM!
ALL RIGHT, LET'S SEE WHAT YOU'VE GOT.


HA! YOU'RE JUST USING ME TO DO YOUR DIRTY WORK!
I WILL GIVE YOU A WAY TO KILL YOUR MOST HATED ENEMIES!
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
IS THERE SOMETHING BETWEEN YOU AND THOSE CHINESE MEN?
BUT I WANT TO KNOW, ARE YOU GOING TO SAVE THE ROACH-LOVER?
A WISE CHOICE!
FINE, WE'LL WORK TOGETHER.
Red King has no idea how to defeat Hero and Lohan, so she reluctantly agrees...
GET SOME REST WHILE I TAKE CARE OF THE DETAILS. WE WILL SPEAK AGAIN SOON.
DON'T WORRY, NOTHING WILL HAPPEN TO DISEASE MAN. ESPECIALLY SINCE WE HAVE A HOSTAGE IN OUR HANDS...
STILL, WITHOUT HIM AS A HOSTAGE, WE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO LEAVE SAFELY...
WELL, HIS LEFT ARM IS GONE SO HE'S USELESS TO ME...
He has a connection to Hero, Lohan, or Wu Yuan. This plan to manipulate Red King has a far more sinister purpose...
Yin Yang Emissary
A CUNNING AND DEVIOUS OPPONENT. THOUGH YOUNG, HE HAS RISEN QUICKLY THROUGH THE RANKS OF THE BLACK DRAGON GANG TO THE RANK OF CAPTAIN, A LEVEL HIGHER THAN RED KING AND DISEASE MAN.
HEE HEE ...

IF YOU'RE FINISHED, I NEED TO SPEAK WITH RED KING. ALONE.
Green King immediately fills her in on what happened since she lost consciousness.
IT'S OKAY !
NUMBER ONE...
WE ARE FROM THE SAME GANG. I WASN'T GONNA LET THEM KILL YOU!
I'VE NEVER DONE ANY-THING FOR YOU BEFORE. WHY DID YOU SAVE ME?
Red King remembers Hero's powers with trepidation.
THEY'RE ALL STRONG FIGHT-ERS, ESPE-CIALLY...
HA HA! VERY WELL!
AM I SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE THAT? WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU...THIS TIME?
I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT WE CAN KILL THEM. BUT I WANT YOU TO HELP!
I HAVE A SUGGESTION THAT WILL ALLOW YOU TO GET RID OF THOSE CHINESE MEN!

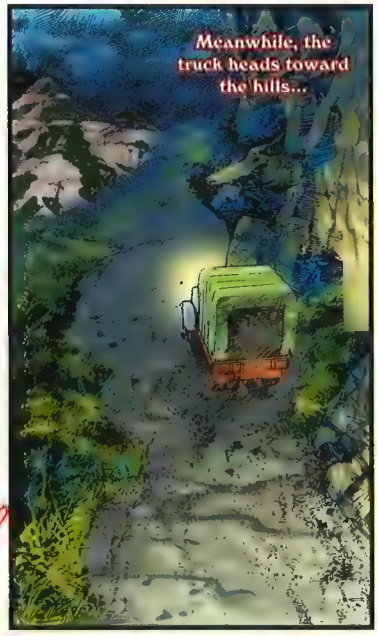
But Disease Man is easily forced into giving up the antidote!


After exerting himself during the fight, Wu Yuan finds the infection flaring up again. He rests and tries to combat it with his chi...

WHAT A STRONG ANES-THETIC!

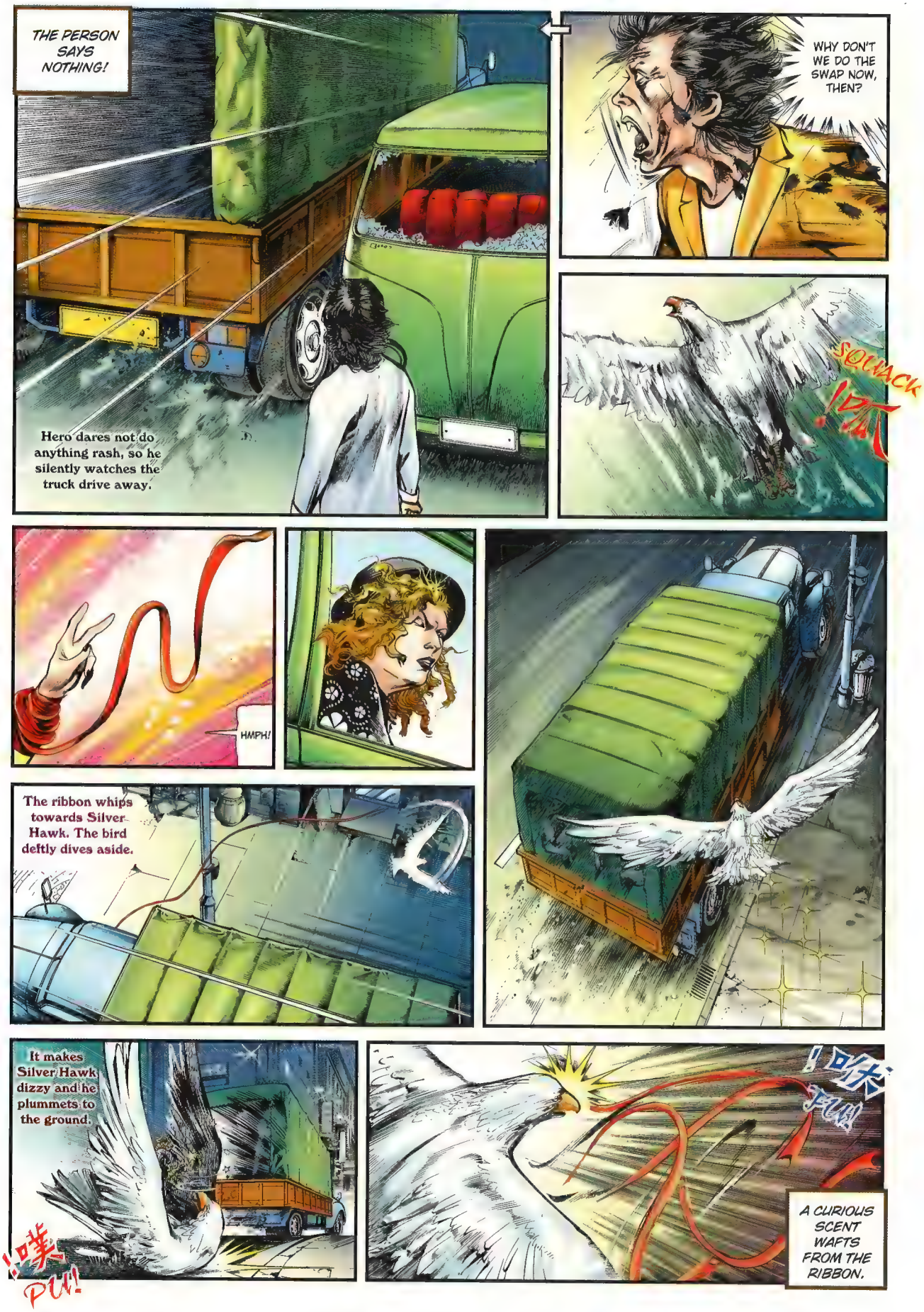
SHA... SHA SHA...

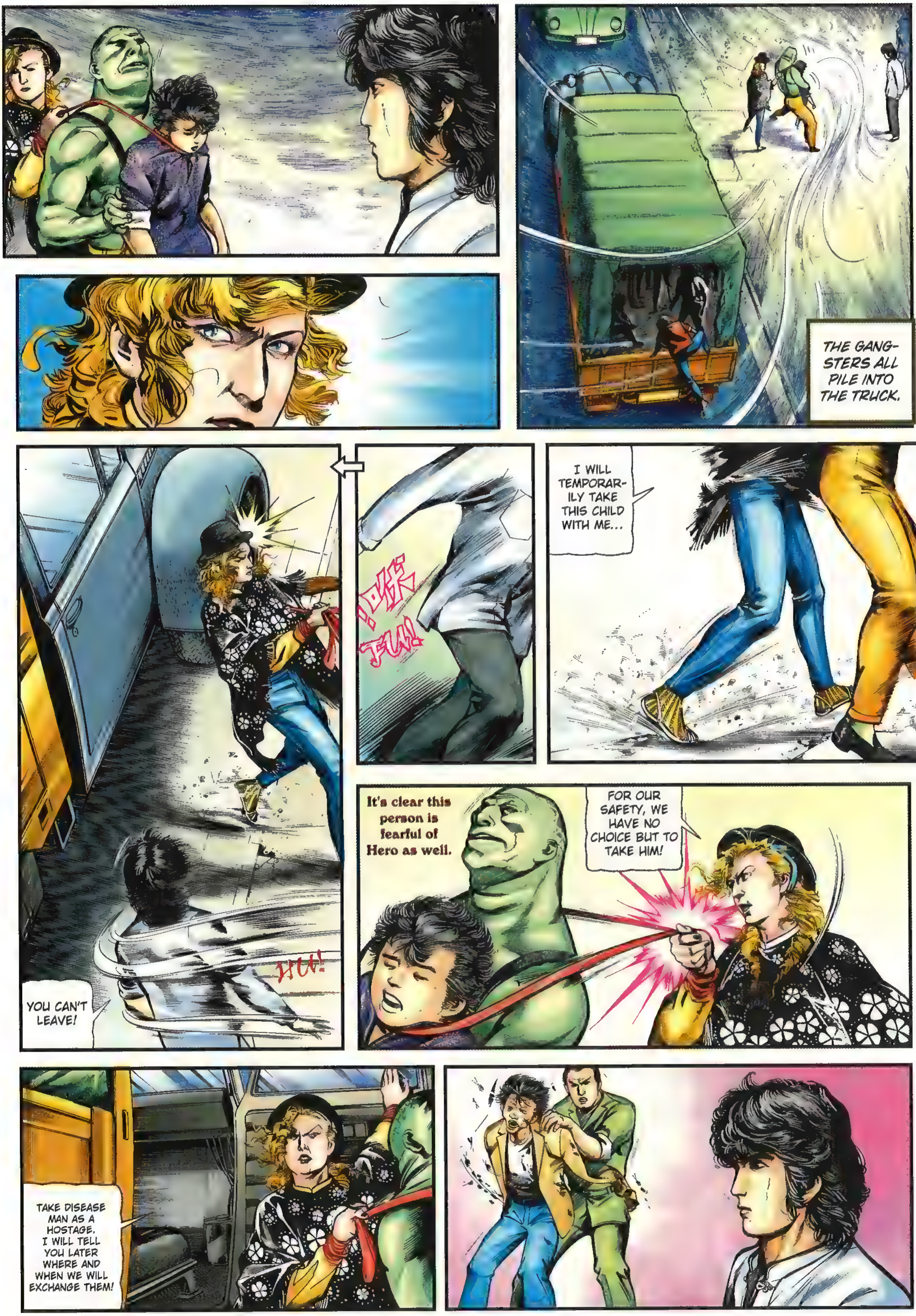
BOOM!! 嘭!!


Meanwhile, the truck heads toward the hills...

陰陽使
Yin Yang Emissary
AH... IT'S YOU!

When Red King comes to, she finds herself in a mansion!


THE PERSON SAYS NOTHING!
Hero dares not do anything rash, so he silently watches the truck drive away.
WHY DON'T WE DO THE SWAP NOW, THEN?
SQUACK
!DT
HMPH!
The ribbon whips towards Silver Hawk. The bird deftly dives aside.
It makes Silver Hawk dizzy and he plummets to the ground.
PU!
A CURIOUS SCENT WAFTS FROM THE RIBBON.



THE GANG-STERS ALL PILE INTO THE TRUCK.
YOU CAN'T LEAVE!
HU!
FU!
I WILL TEMPORAR-ILY TAKE THIS CHILD WITH ME...
It's clear this person is fearful of Hero as well.
FOR OUR SAFETY, WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO TAKE HIM!
TAKE DISEASE MAN AS A HOSTAGE. I WILL TELL YOU LATER WHERE AND WHEN WE WILL EXCHANGE THEM!

PUNCH!
PAH!
Suddenly, Lohan attacks Disease Man!
I WANT THEM TO LEAVE HERE SAFELY...
I SMELL PERFUME!
FRIEND, WHAT IS YOUR INTENTION?
With Hero's help, Disease Man easily becomes a hostage.
YES!
This new person must be skilled.
PUT RED KING IN THE CAR!
DON'T HURT THE CHILD AND I PROMISE YOU THAT THEY WILL BE UNHARMED!

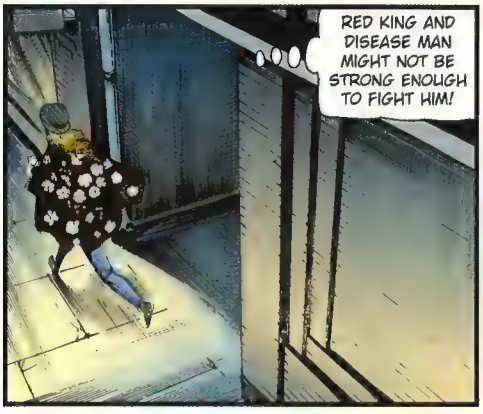
BOOM!
His steps are as light as air, so how can his palms strike with such power?
The strength of Hero's block completely stuns Red King! His strike flows forth like a tidal wave, and Blood Thunder cannot withstand its strength!
GOOD!
EVEN SHE'S BEEN DE-FEAT-ED?
OH!
AH!
Blood King faints from the exertion, and her underlings hesitate!

STOP!
YOU CAN'T DODGE ME FOREVER!
KILL THE KID FIRST!
Infinite Hedron Palm
重無海大

This is something that Hero has been working hard to perfect...
Confusion Step
HERO DOESN'T DISAPPOINT. HIS STEPS ARE NIMBLE AND GRACEFUL AS HE DEFTLY EVADES THE TWO!
HMPH!
PLEASE STOP!

YOU'RE RIGHT ON TIME!
HUH?
Hero calmly surveys his surroundings...
RED KING IS ANXIOUS TO TRY OUT HER NEWLY HONED TECH-NIQUE!
YOU TWO ARE MINE!
BROTHER WU YUAN, HOW ARE YOU HOLDING UP?
THEY'RE JUST RIFFRAFF. NOTHING TO TROUBLE YOURSELF OVER!
Lohan wants to see Hero in action, but he's worried about Wu Yuan.
HERO, YOU TAKE CARE OF THESE PEOPLE!

HE'S A TOUGH ONE!

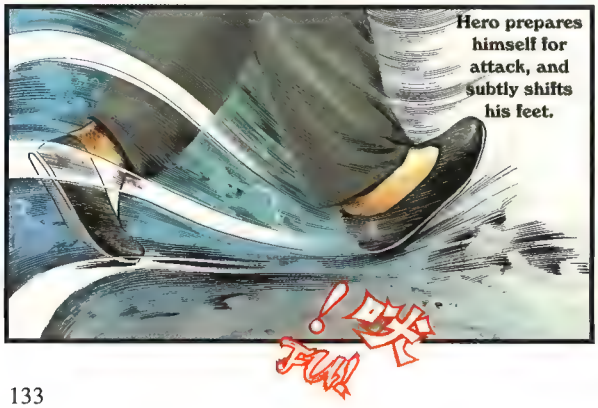

RED KING AND DISEASE MAN MIGHT NOT BE STRONG ENOUGH TO FIGHT HIM!

HE-RO!
AH!

VERYONE, LET'S TALK THIS OVER. THERE'S NO NEED TO FIGHT...

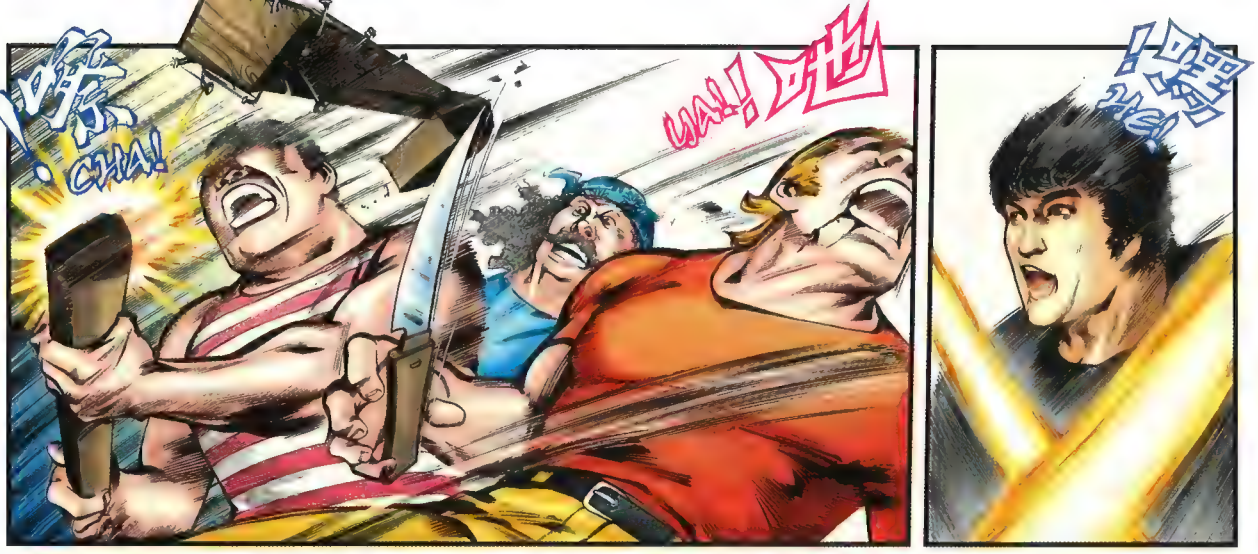
Sensing the power emanating from Hero, his foes switch to defensive positions.

HER FINGERS ARE BLOOD RED, SO... THEY MUST BE FILLED WITH EXPLOSIVE POWER!


Hero prepares himself for attack, and subtly shifts his feet.
FUM!

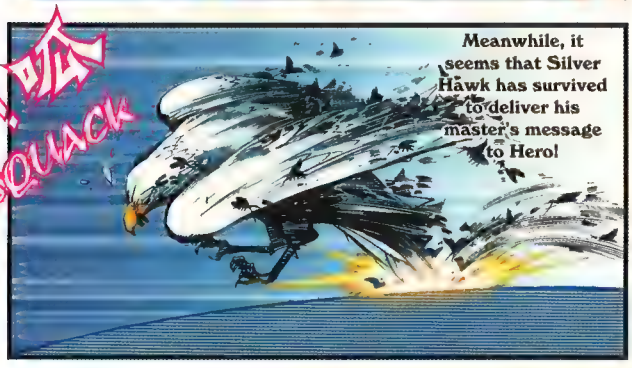
BUT RED KING IGNORES HERO AND IMMEDIATELY ATTACKS!
HG!

SQUACK
SQUACK
Silver Hawk is startled by the killing power he can feel in Hero's hands.
YOU ARE A BRAVE ONE!
Having noticed the fighting next door, the Gate Master has already informed Hero of trouble.
Aside from tending to the mundane matters of China Tower, Hero has been diligently practicing his martial arts for fifteen years. The Gate Master wishes he could see this fight!
HERO IS GOING TO FIGHT!
THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH CHINA TOWER, SO YOU NEED NOT INVOLVE YOURSELF!


CHA!
UAH!

I... I CAN'T PASS OUT...

HE NARROWLY AVOIDS BEING STRUCK BY RED KING'S PALMS.
On the other end of the alley, Lohan faces two strong opponents!
BOOM!

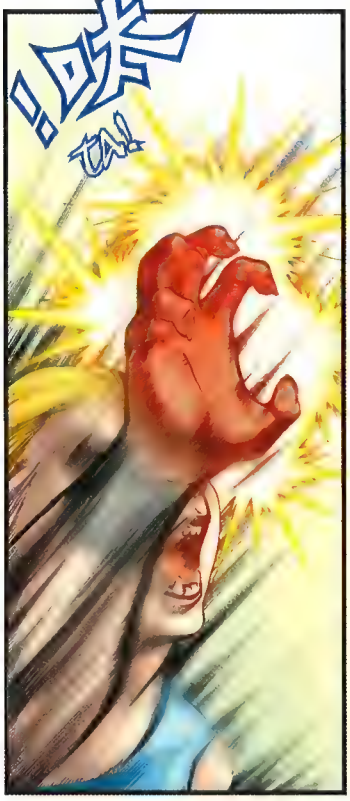

SQUACK
Meanwhile, it seems that Silver Hawk has survived to deliver his master's message to Hero!

Even with just an axe in his hand, Wu Yuan is fierce and indomitable. No wonder they call him the King of Weapons!

SINCE HE'S OUTNUMBERED, HE DECIDES TO SURPRISE HIS ENEMIES WITH A GROUND ATTACK!
CHP!
DON'T PUSH YOURSELF!
The brief rest has allowed Wu Yuan to regain some of his strength.
KHACK!
PU!
FOOM!
YMPH!

...AND DISEASE MAN! LOHAN AND WU YUAN ARE SURROUNDED!
FU!
The gangsters...
WU YUAN...
ROAR!
HU!
HE'S OUTNUMBERED AND OVERWHELMED BUT HE STILL FIGHTS BACK. WHAT A STUBBORN GUY.

WHOA!
BOOM!
Lohan blocks with his right leg and strikes with his left!
BAM!
A STRONG OPPONENT!
HE'S STR-ONG!
BOOM!
THE PRESSURE SHATTERS THE WINDOWS OF THE TRUCK!
ROAR!
RED KING WASTES NO TIME IN STRENGTHENING HER CHI!


!吠
TA!

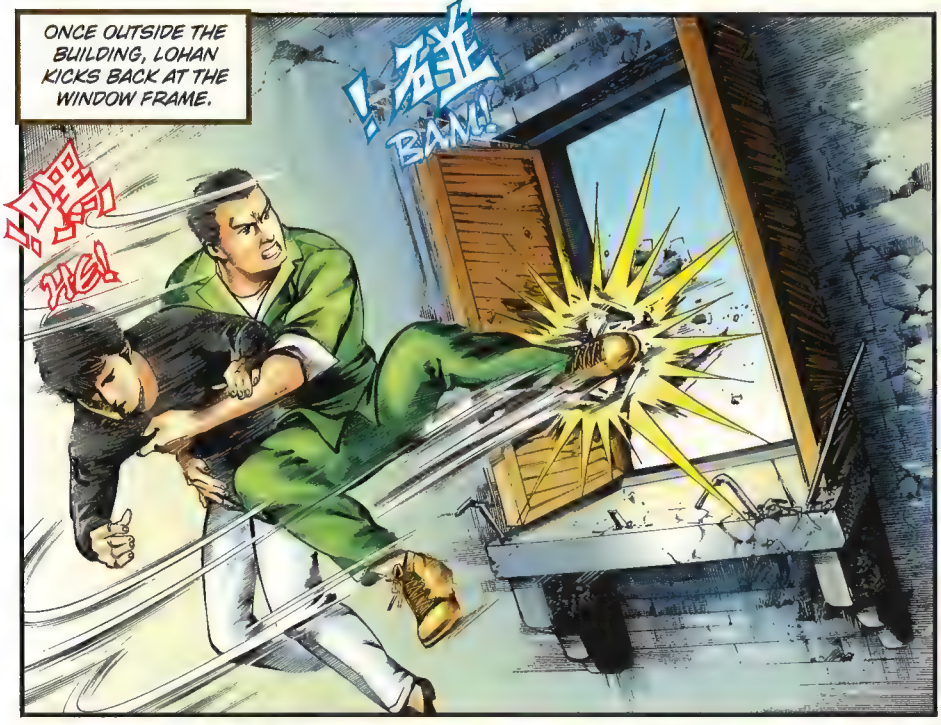
Even with Wu Yuan's added weight, Lohan is incredibly fast.
FU!
!吠
YA!
AUH!
!啊

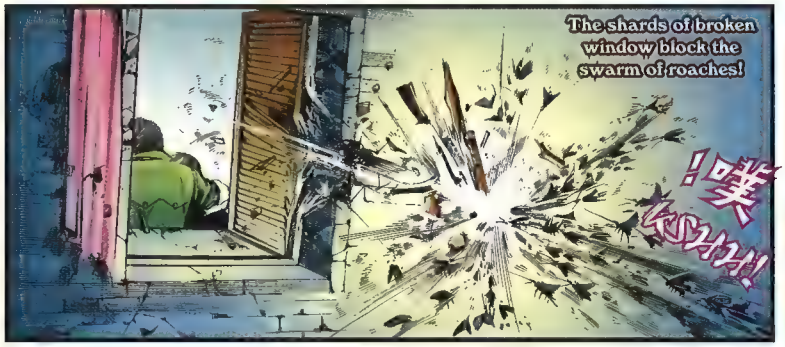
SHE'S GOOD. I SHOULDN'T UNDERESTIMATE HER!

!吠
BAM!
Blood Thunder vs. No Shadow Kick
血舞雷
火葬
無影腳

YA!
ZOOM
Jian throws a straight punch, but Red King blocks with her palm using... Blood Thunder.
THIS CHILD LOOKS LIKE HE'D BE TENDER MEAT, PERFECT FOR MY NEEDS. SAVE HIM FOR ME!
I'LL CUT YOU SLOWLY AND LEAVE YOU TO DIE SCREAMING IN AGONY.
SKSS
呼
JIAN...
PUI!

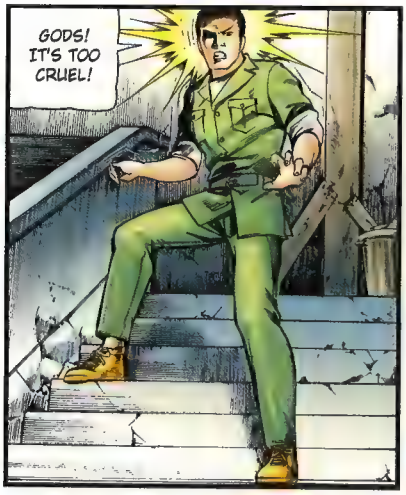
SINCE THE ROACHES ARE INFECTIOUS AND DIFFICULT TO DEFEND AGAINST, LOHAN CHOOSES THE BETTER PART OF VALOR...



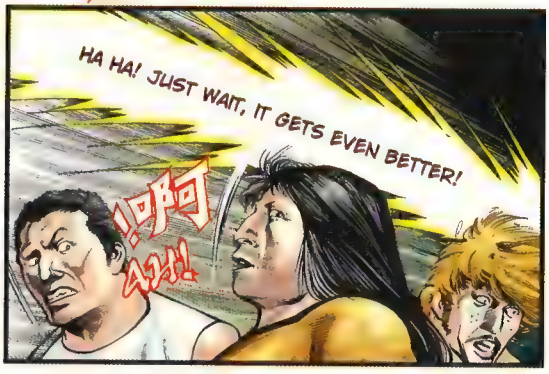


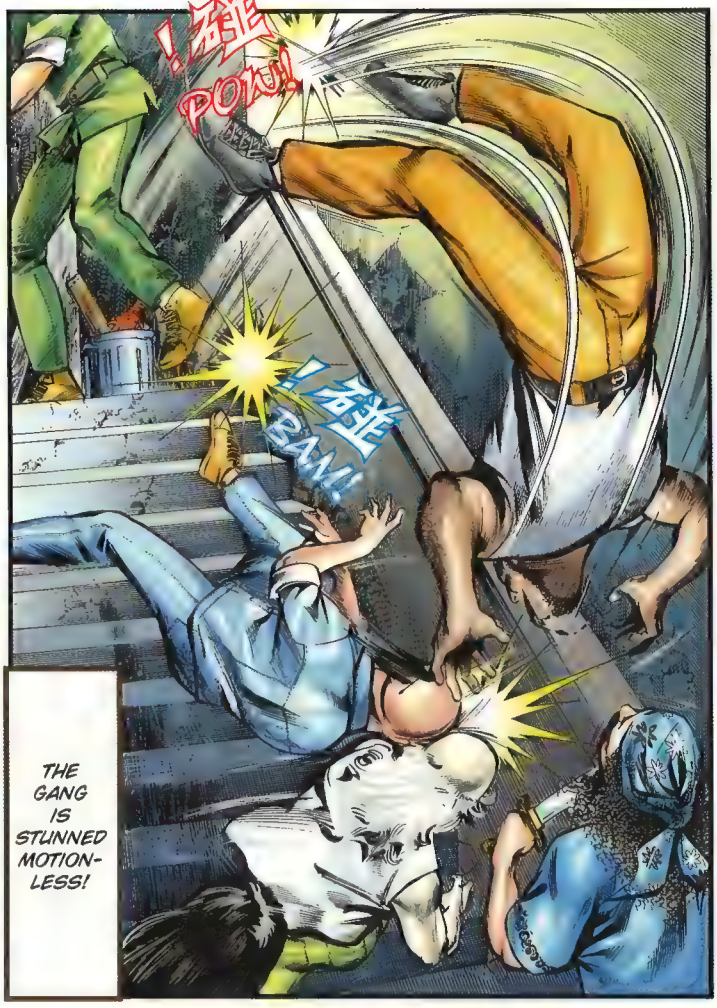
FOOM!
In the blink of an eye...
FAST LEGS!
Without hesitation, Lohan immediately passes some of his own chi to Wu Yuan's body.
NOW WHO WANTS TO DIE FIRST?! STEP UP OR LEAVE!
BUT NO MATTER HOW FAST, BUT MY BROTHERS ARE FASTER!
The roaches are doused with the bacteria!

AH!
GET HIM!
LOHAN QUICKLY RUSHES FORWARD TO HELP!
BROTHER WU YUAN, STOP!
BROTHER WU YUAN, FIGHT IT!
YOU... SAVED ME... JUST IN TIME...
?
HOW FAST CAN YOU BLINK?



Zhen Fang Yuan laughs maniacally...





THE GANG IS STUNNED MOTION-LESS!

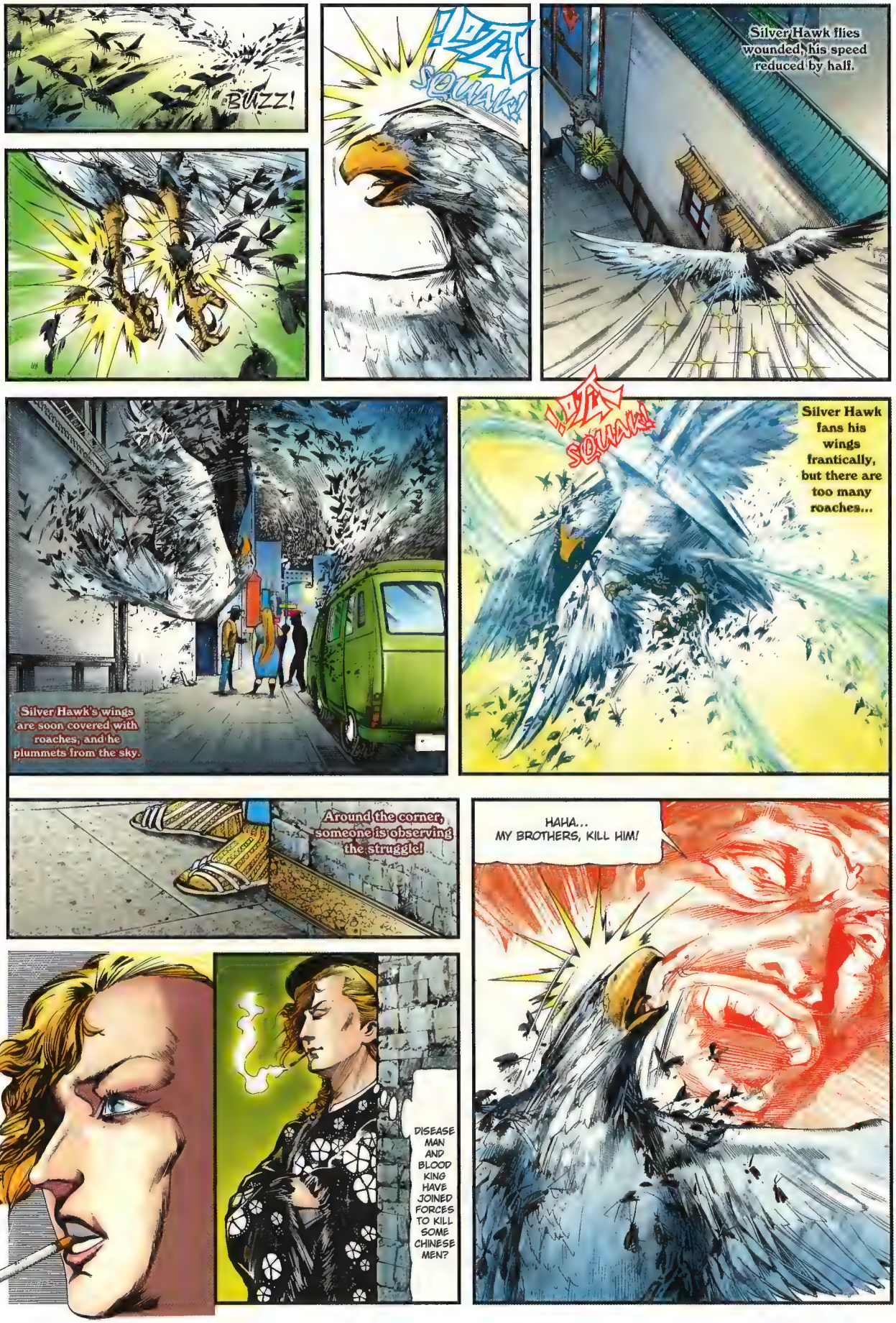
陰陽使
Yin Yang Emissary
橫掃影龍
Horizontal Dragon Shadow
One against many, Lohan attacks first with eighty percent of his strength!

中華英雄
Chinese Hero

-Tales of the Blood Sword-

Chapter 21:
Yin Yang Emissary

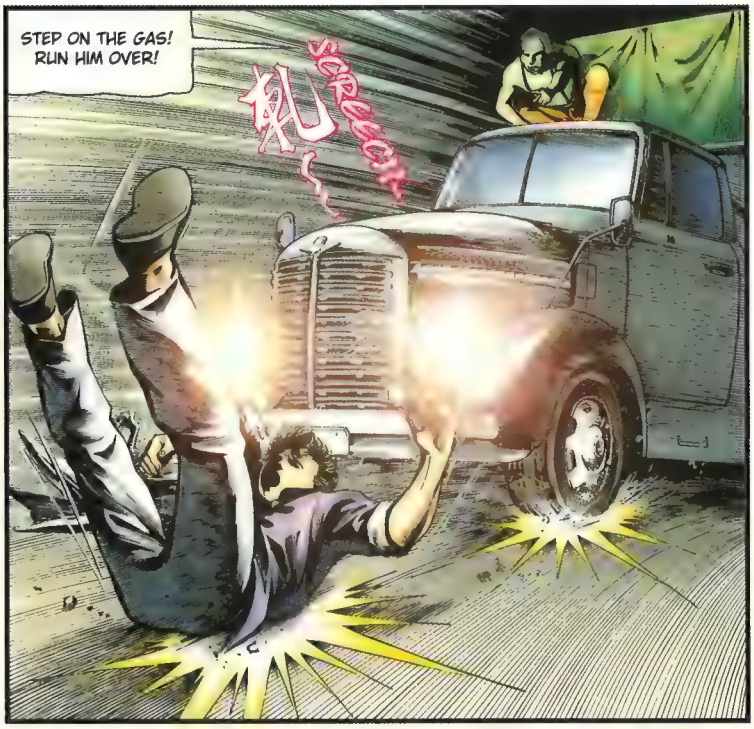
ON THE OTHER SIDE, THREE KINGS ARRIVE ...
Inside the room, Zhen Fang Yuan reaches critical condition. Even sealing his pressure points is not enough to keep him calm.
GRAAH!
Things have gone from bad to worse. Lohan has no choice but to fight alone and hope that he can survive until Hero arrives.


BUZZZ!
SQUAK!
Silver Hawk flies wounded, his speed reduced by half.
Silver Hawk's wings are soon covered with roaches, and he plummets from the sky.
SQUAK!
Silver Hawk fans his wings frantically, but there are too many roaches...
Around the corner, someone is observing the struggle!
HAHA... MY BROTHERS, KILL HIM!
DISEASE MAN AND BLOOD KING HAVE JOINED FORCES TO KILL SOME CHINESE MEN?

Releasing Silver Hawk, Jian attacks Red King. He has to buy time for his father to arrive!
AH!
HURRY AND GO FIND MY FATHER!
HOW IS UNCLE LOHAN GOING TO FIGHT ALL THESE GUYS?!

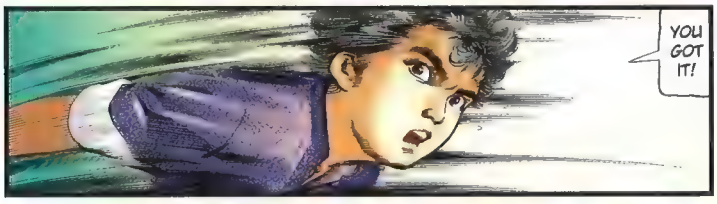
!嘭
FOOM!
Jian throws a straight punch, but Red King blocks with... Blood Thunder!
Jian feels as though electricity is coursing down his arm. His blood boils and his organs feel as if they are about to burst!

WAH!
WHOOSH!
呼

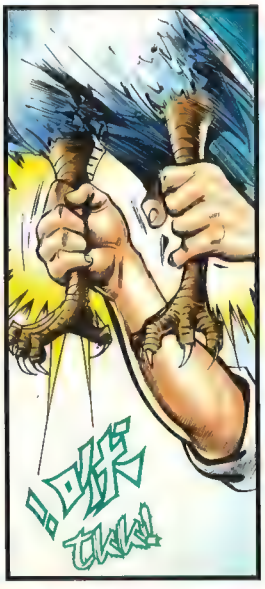

STEP ON THE GAS! RUN HIM OVER!
SCREECH
私

NEARLY TWO DOZEN ARMED FIGHTERS POUR FROM THE TRUCK...

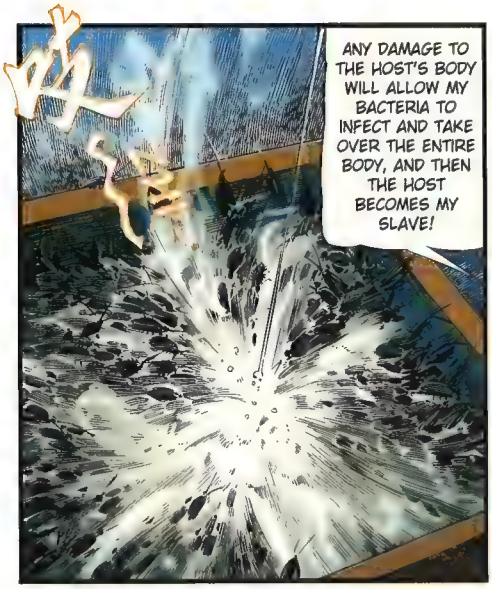
哇~~
!嗤
SQUAWK!
!噗
FOOM!
!噗
FLICK!
FU!
PAH!
!啪
The slight lift is enough to slow Jian's downward fall.
!呼
HU!
PU!
!噗
Silver Hawk dives and uses his own body as a cushion for Jian.
!噗
PAK!
!哈
UA!



Wu Yuan is determined not to let the poison spread further, so he destroys the roaches with his chi.



啊 AAH!
HUA!!
AH!
DISEASE MAN HAS FOUND US!
ROAR!
吼 ROAR!
As the roaches latch on to his body, Zhen Fang Yuan experiences a strong reaction!
ROACHES ALSO DIVE TOWARD WU YUAN.


ANY DAMAGE TO THE HOST'S BODY WILL ALLOW MY BACTERIA TO INFECT AND TAKE OVER THE ENTIRE BODY, AND THEN THE HOST BECOMES MY SLAVE!

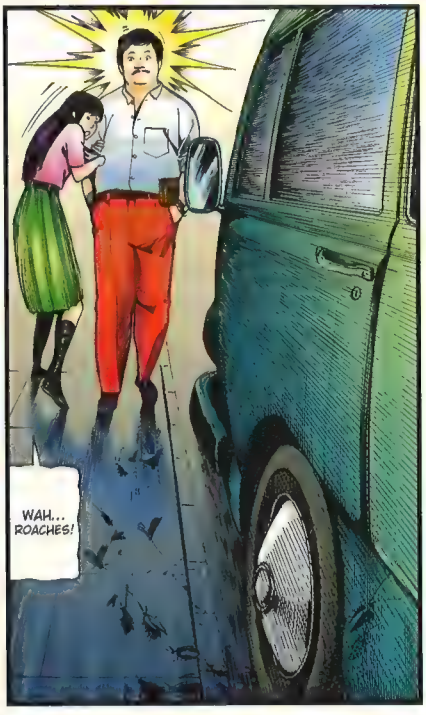
I JUST NEED TO POUR TWO DROPS ON MY BROTHERS...

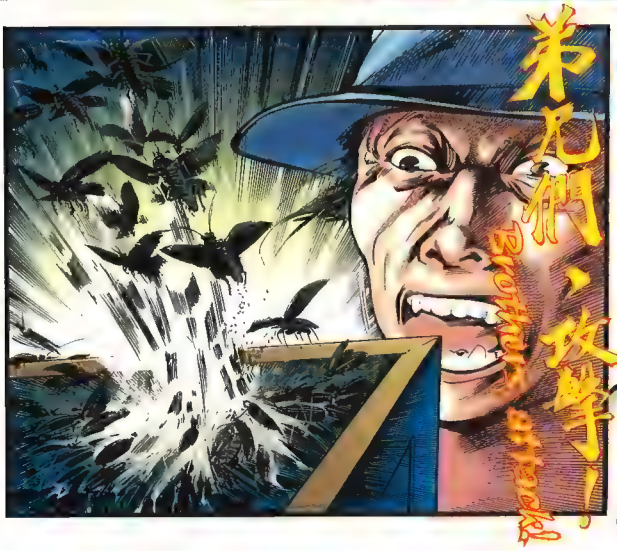
THIS IS THE NEW POISON I HAVE CREATED... ROACH BACTERIA!

IT WAS NOTHING...
WOW, YOU'RE SO BRAVE!

THERE ARE STILL A COUPLE MORE.

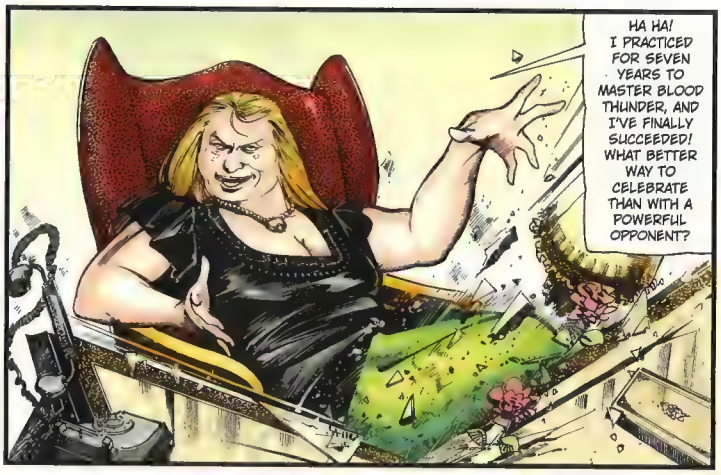
HOW COULD YOU BE AFRAID OF A FEW ROACHES! DIE...
啪!


WAH... ROACHES!


弟兄們，攻擊！
Brothers, attack!

啪!
HUH!

Disease Man realizes that while Red King has achieved her ultimate goal, his attempts were ruined by Lohan and Wu Yuan. He seethes with anger!


HA HA! I PRACTICED FOR SEVEN YEARS TO MASTER BLOOD THUNDER, AND I'VE FINALLY SUCCEEDED! WHAT BETTER WAY TO CELEBRATE THAN WITH A POWERFUL OPPONENT?

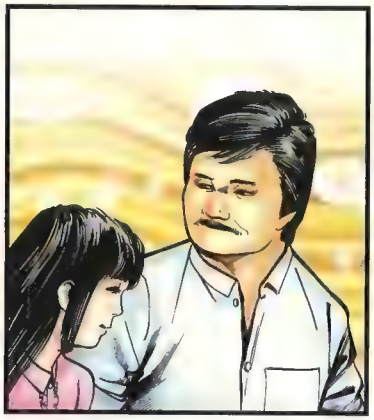
IN FACT, HE DOESN'T WANT TO GO BACK AND DEAL WITH THE DOOR MASTER AGAIN.

Jian volunteers to stay behind with Wu Yuan.

Hero personally brings food for everyone, leaving only after brewing medicine for Wu Yuan and Zeng Fang Yuan.

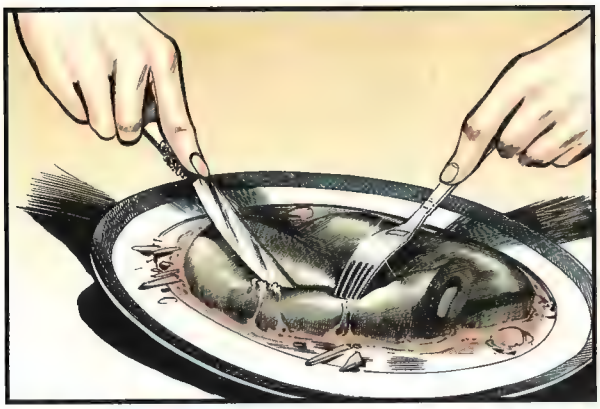
LOHAN ADMIRES WU YUAN'S TOUGH FIGHTING SPIRIT, BUT HE CONTINUES TO WORRY ABOUT HIS CONDITION!

WU YUAN IS NOT COMPLETELY CONSCIOUS YET, AND HIS BODY FLICKERS BLUE AND PURPLE AS HE CONTINUES TO FIGHT THE POISON WITH HIS CHI.



The other kings back away, afraid of being infected!
ALL RIGHT, COME THIS WAY!
LET'S TALK ABOUT IT IN THE STUDY!
Y-YOUR ARM...
I MET A STRONG OPPONENT, AND I WANT YOU TO HELP ME ELIMINATE HIM!
Disease Man knows that Red King's powers are on par with his own.
STUPID BITCH! THIS OPPONENT IS STRONG, SO STOP BEING BOASTFUL!
WE WERE GOOD AS HUSBAND AND WIFE. JUST TELL ME WHO IT IS AND I'LL DO THE DEED. AFTER I KILL HIM, I'LL FRY HIM UP AND EAT HIM WHOLE!
KABOOM!
AH... YOU'VE MASTERED... BLOOD THUNDER?!
One strike with Blood Thunder and the desk explodes!
THE MORE POWERFUL, THE BETTER!

NUMBER ONE...
UH!
...
SOMEONE ODD... IS HERE... TO SEE YOU!
AHH!
RED KING, I'M HERE ON BUSINESS!
HEE HEE! YOU'RE FINALLY BACK!
His roaches have protected him by clotting the wound. Everyone is disgusted by the macabre sight!
PLAK!



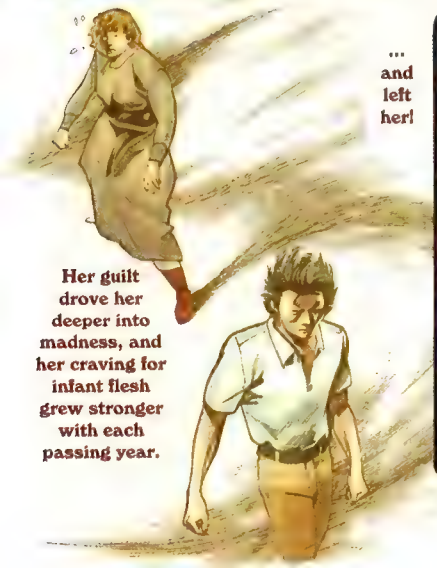
ONLY ONE WEEK. IT MUST BE VERY TENDER!

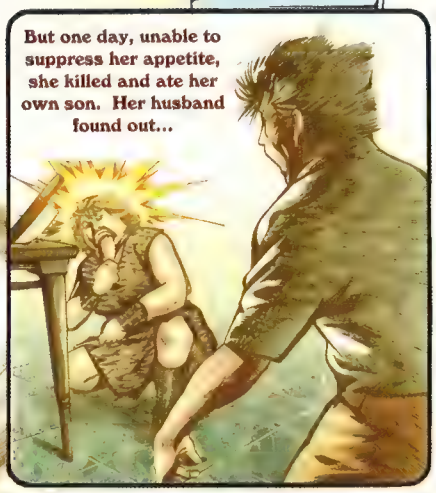
HOW MANY DAYS OLD?

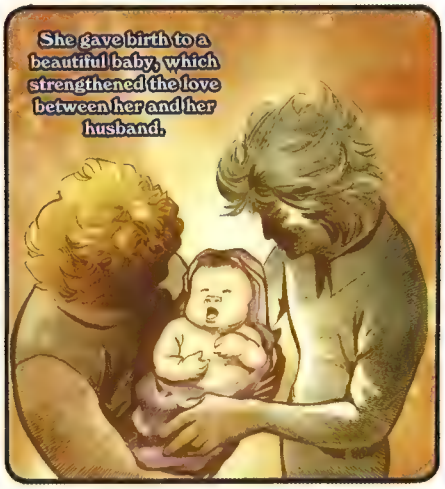
Many years ago, she and her husband were both lieutenants in the Black Dragon Gang. After many years she became pregnant.

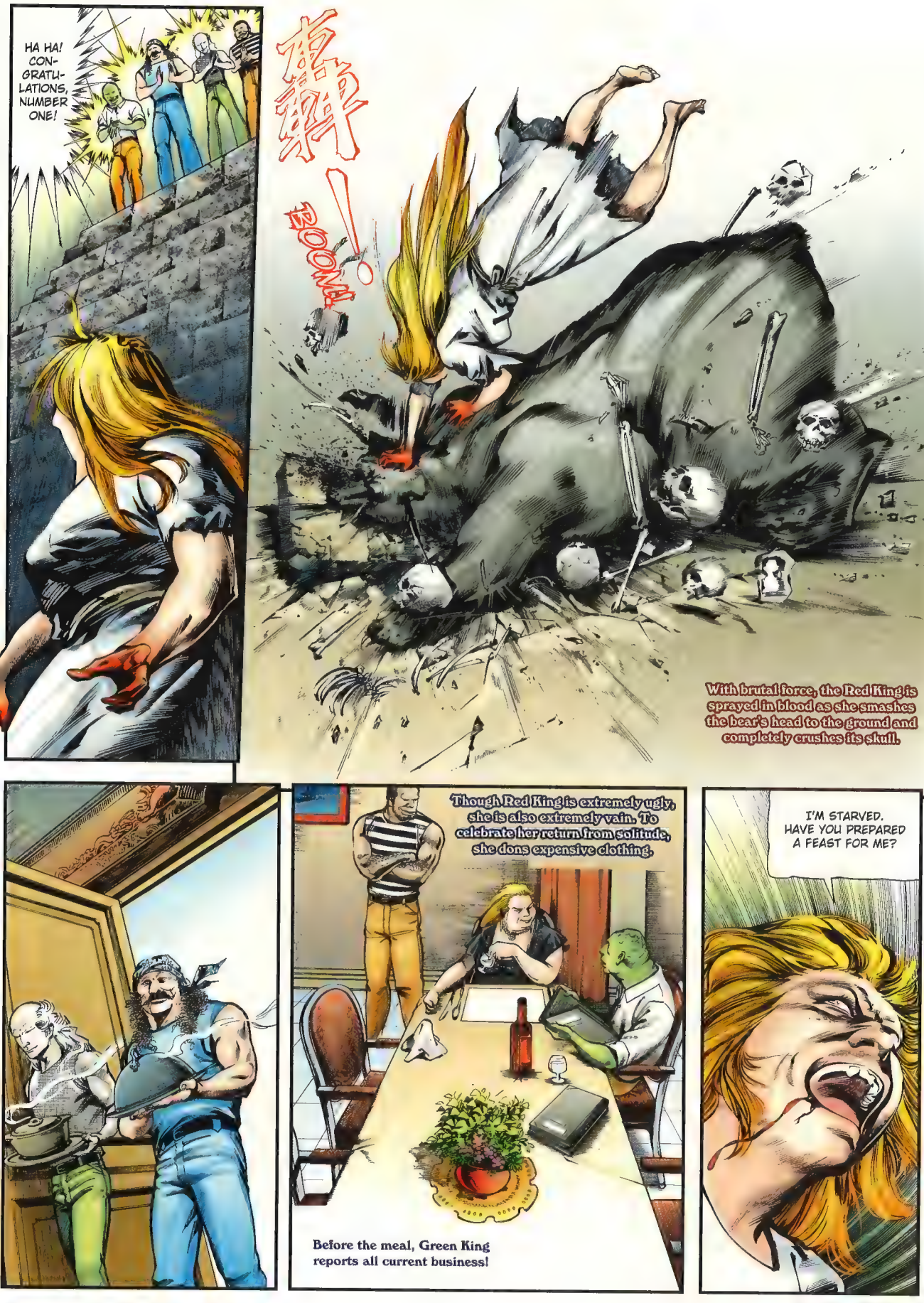
Red King is a cannibal. Her favorite meal is young babies.

THIS STEW HAS BEEN SIMMERING FOR A LONG TIME. IT MUST BE DELICIOUS!
BRING IT HERE!


... and left her!
Her guilt drove her deeper into madness, and her craving for infant flesh grew stronger with each passing year.


But one day, unable to suppress her appetite, she killed and ate her own son. Her husband found out...

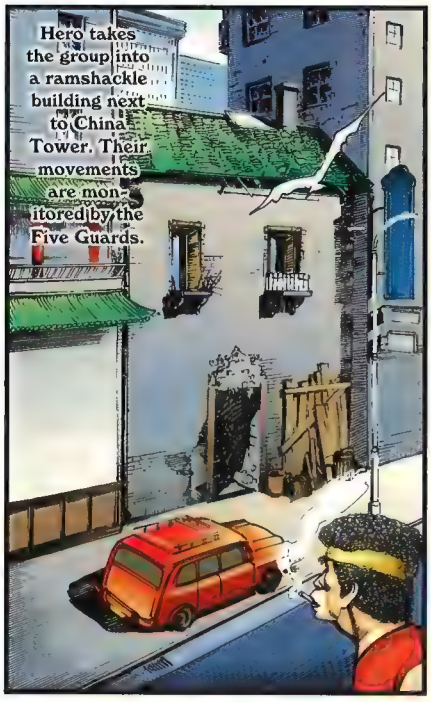

She gave birth to a beautiful baby, which strengthened the love between her and her husband.


HA HA! CONGRATULATIONS, NUMBER ONE!
BOOM!
With brutal force, the Red King is sprayed in blood as she smashes the bear's head to the ground and completely crushes its skull.
Though Red King is extremely ugly, she is also extremely vain. To celebrate her return from solitude, she dons expensive clothing.
Before the meal, Green King reports all current business!
I'M STARVED. HAVE YOU PREPARED A FEAST FOR ME?

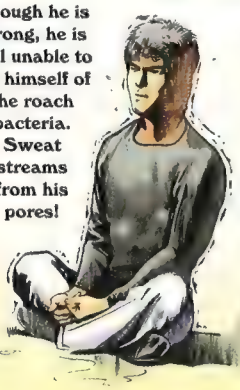
KRNCH!
CHA!
ROAR!
Ack! It's bitter!
HEE HEE! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
She thrusts out her hand, exposing her fire-red claws. This is what she has been practicing- Blood Thunder!

HEY! WHERE ARE MY SACRI-FICES?!
血王
Blood (Red) King
CHA!
This bear has been kept on the edge of starvation for a decade, so when it sees the Red King, it immediately attacks!
ROAR!
HA HA~
HU

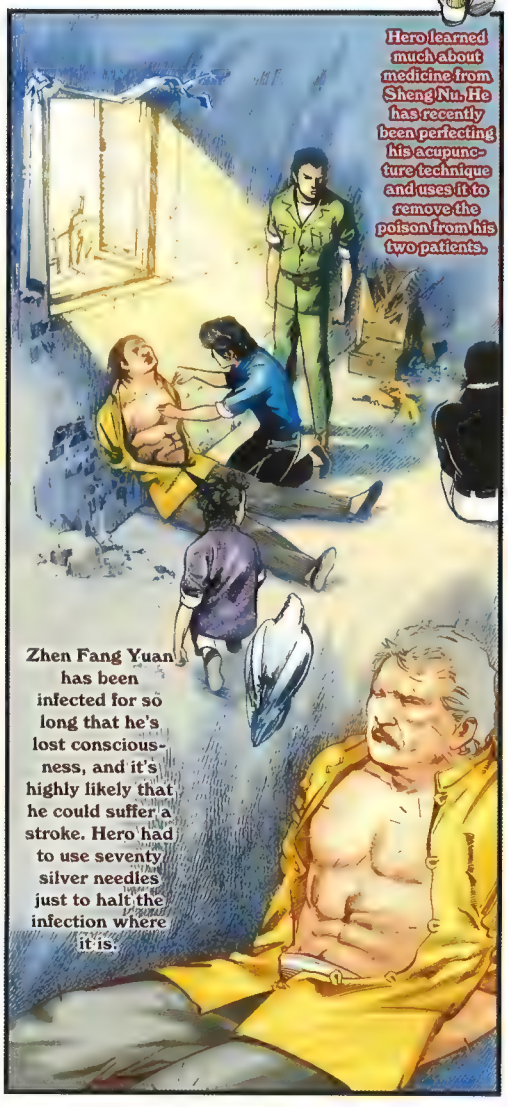
吓!
What?
THIS POISON IS EXTREMELY POTENT, AND IT HAS ALREADY SATURATED THEIR BODIES. THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO TO SAVE THEM.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN FATHER?
FROM WHAT YOU SAY, WU YUAN IS CLEARLY A TALENTED YOUNG MAN! WHAT A SHAME ...
BOOM!
Five Guards' Dungeon
Leader of the Five Color Guards
破關
哈~哈~



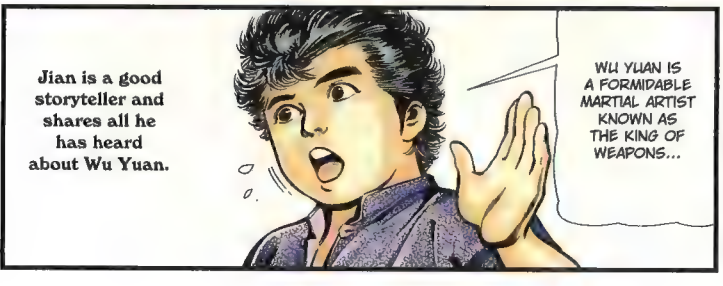
Though he is strong, he is still unable to rid himself of the roach bacteria. Sweat streams from his pores!



To aid the treatment, Wu Yuan begins to circulate his chi to heal his own body.



Jian is a good storyteller and shares all he has heard about Wu Yuan.



I HAVE TO FOLLOW THE RULES!
MASTER SUN, PLEASE CAN YOU LET US IN THIS ONE TIME?
THIS IS A TEAHOUSE. TAKE THEM TO THE HOSPITAL!
YOU'RE HERO'S FAMILY, SO WE MADE AN EXCEPTION FOR YOU!
IF CHINA TOWER DOESN'T ALLOW OUTSIDERS, THEN HOW COME I...?
BUT THESE TWO PEOPLE ARE REALLY SICK! THEY NEED IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION! DON'T BE STUPID!
ALL RIGHT!
BROTHER LOHAN, THERE'S AN EMPTY ROOM NEXT DOOR. WE CAN TEMPORARILY PUT THE PATIENTS THERE!
HERO AND LOHAN KNOW THE IMPORTANCE OF DUTY TO THE DOOR GUARD.
JIAN, DON'T BE SO IMPOLITE!

JIAN, DON'T GET TOO CLOSE TO THEM!
THEY ARE SUFFERING FROM ROACH BACTERIA POISONING...
IS THERE ANY WAY TO CURE THEM?
Inside the car, Wu Yuan continues to use his chi to hold back the poison as best he can, but Zhen Fang Yuan's condition has worsened!
THE ROACH BACTERIA DOES NOT SPREAD EASILY, SO IT'S SAFE TO TAKE THEM INSIDE.
FATHER, ONE OF THEM IS MY FRIEND, PLEASE SAVE HIM!
AH...
HUH?

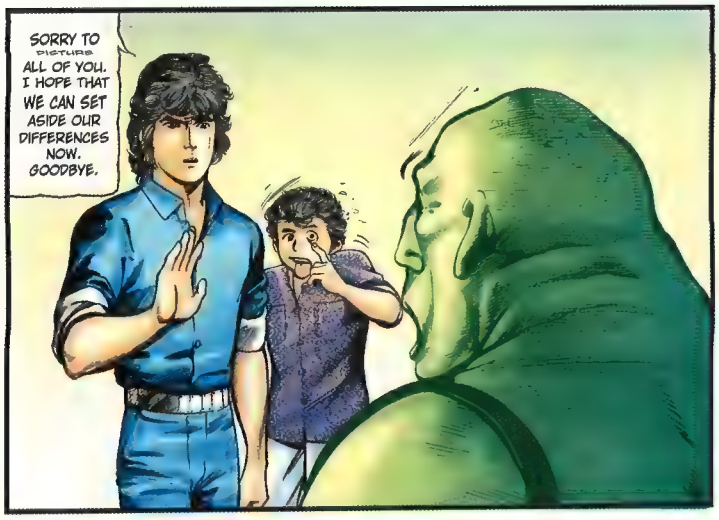
HELLO! GOOD MORNING!
Since Jian is the first guest China Tower has had in fifteen years, the Gate Master is especially watchful of him.
Sun Gate Master
嗖!
SCREECH!
HOW DO YOU LIKE AMERICA?
WU YUAN?
AH!
AH! LOOK AT HIS FACE. HE'S BEEN BADLY POISONED!
FU!

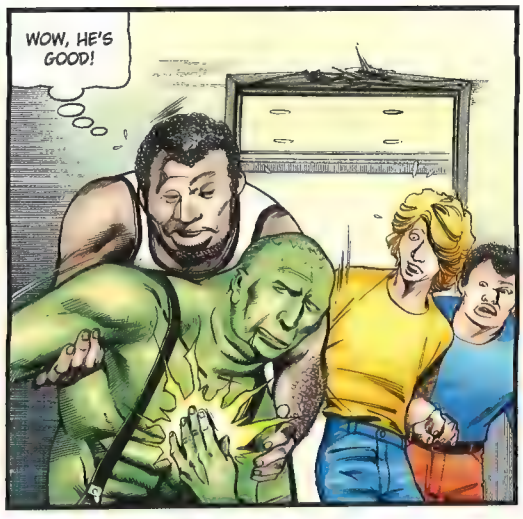
Jian was so happy and excited that he could not stop talking!
Father and son chatted late into the night...
DID I WAKE YOU?
NO, I JUST WOKE UP. I'VE SLEPT ENOUGH. CAN WE TALK?
Hero reaches forward to grasp the umbrella when it suddenly opens on its own!
AH!
TOOM!
FATHER, THIS IS THE HELL'S GATE UMBRELLA!
But even Hero is mystified by Jian's stories about Hell's Gate.
QING, PLEASE MAIL THIS LETTER FOR ME! THANK YOU!
THIS GATE MASTER IS ALWAYS STARING AT ME...
Filled with excitement, Jian writes to Grandfather Sheng Nu!
The next morning...

啊
AHH!
THIS IS THE SECOND TIME I'VE DREAMT OF HIM! WHO IS HE?
AH!
SEEING HIS SON BEFORE HIM, HERO SMILES CONTENTLY.
GRANDFATHER SAID THAT DAD IS A HOT-BLOODED HERO, BUT HE'S NOTHING LIKE THAT.
FATHER!
FATHER'S LOVE FOR ME IS THERE DEEP IN HIS HEART...

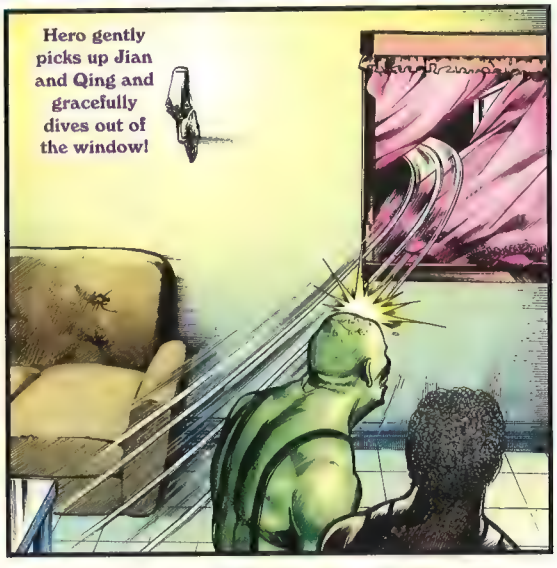
NOT!
LITTLE KING
LITTLE KING
WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?
UM... SIR, PLEASE LET ME GO!
Huh?
What?
Little King, someone close to you means you harm...
Little King, the path before you is perilous, be careful...
I... I must go now!

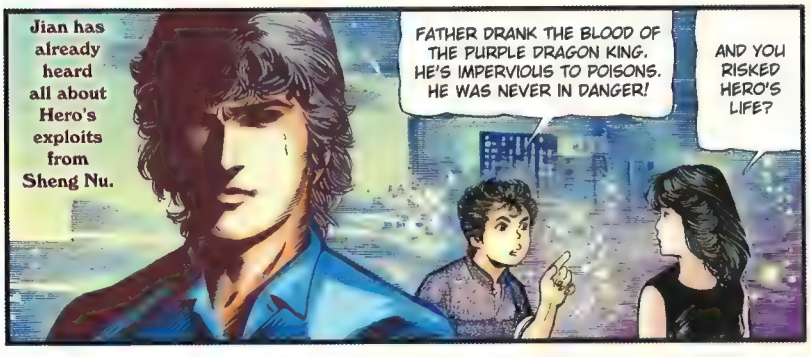
HUH? HOW COMES THERE'S ONLY TWO OF THEM?
JADE, OUR SON IS NOW GROWN AND HAS RETURNED TO MY SIDE. YOU SHOULD HAVE NO MORE REGRETS!
YES!
YOU'RE FROM THE FIVE GUARDS?
DON'T MOVE! WE HAVE A GUN AGAINST YOUR BACK!
JIAN IS STILL YOUNG AND USES HIS FATHER'S PROTECTION TO HAVE A LITTLE FUN...
I'M GOING NOW. YOU TAKE CARE OF THIS GUY FOR ME!
HMPH, I'M NOT AFRAID OF YOU. IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR TROUBLE, THEN COME TO CHINA TOWER TO FIND ME.


SORRY TO PICTURE ALL OF YOU. I HOPE THAT WE CAN SET ASIDE OUR DIFFERENCES NOW. GOODBYE.

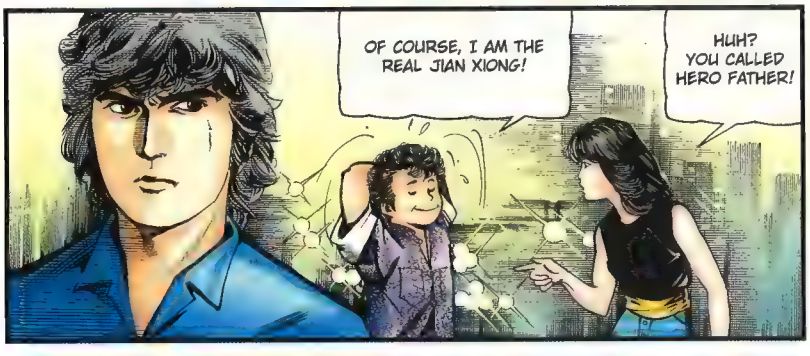

WOW, HE'S GOOD!

...
The men are stunned by Hero's actions, but know better than to chase after him!
IF HE WAS BITTEN BY THE GREEN SNAKE, HOW CAN HE STILL BE ALIVE?


Hero gently picks up Jian and Qing and gracefully dives out of the window!


Jian has already heard all about Hero's exploits from Sheng Nu.
FATHER DRANK THE BLOOD OF THE PURPLE DRAGON KING. HE'S IMPERVIOUS TO POISONS. HE WAS NEVER IN DANGER!
AND YOU RISKED HERO'S LIFE?

THE SNAKE WAS ON YOU SO I HAD TO GET IT TO MOVE!
WHY DID YOU FORCE GREEN DRAGON'S SNAKE TO BITE HERO?


OF COURSE, I AM THE REAL JIAN XIONG!
HUH? YOU CALLED HERO FATHER!

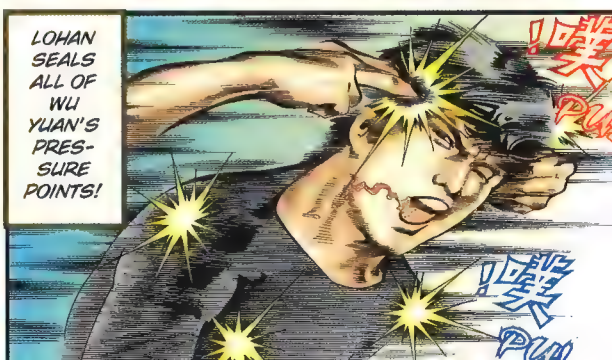
BOOM!
PUH
HOW DARE YOU DISHONOR ME! I'LL TAKE YOUR EYES!
NOW'S MY CHANCE...
HERO'S PUSH IMMEDIATELY BRINGS QING BACK TO HER SENSES.
OH...
Jian's smart enough to know his father doesn't want more trouble, so he plays along.
YOU'RE RIGHT, I AM FEELING A BIT TIRED!
JIAN, IT'S LATE. WE SHOULD GO HOME NOW.
AH!

Terrified of the green snake's poison, the two underlings immediately release Hero!
Back in the Five Guards' Hall...
HMPH! I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TOUGH I AM!

Blood Thunder

I'M SO-RRY BRO-THER YUAN!

快！快！快吹！

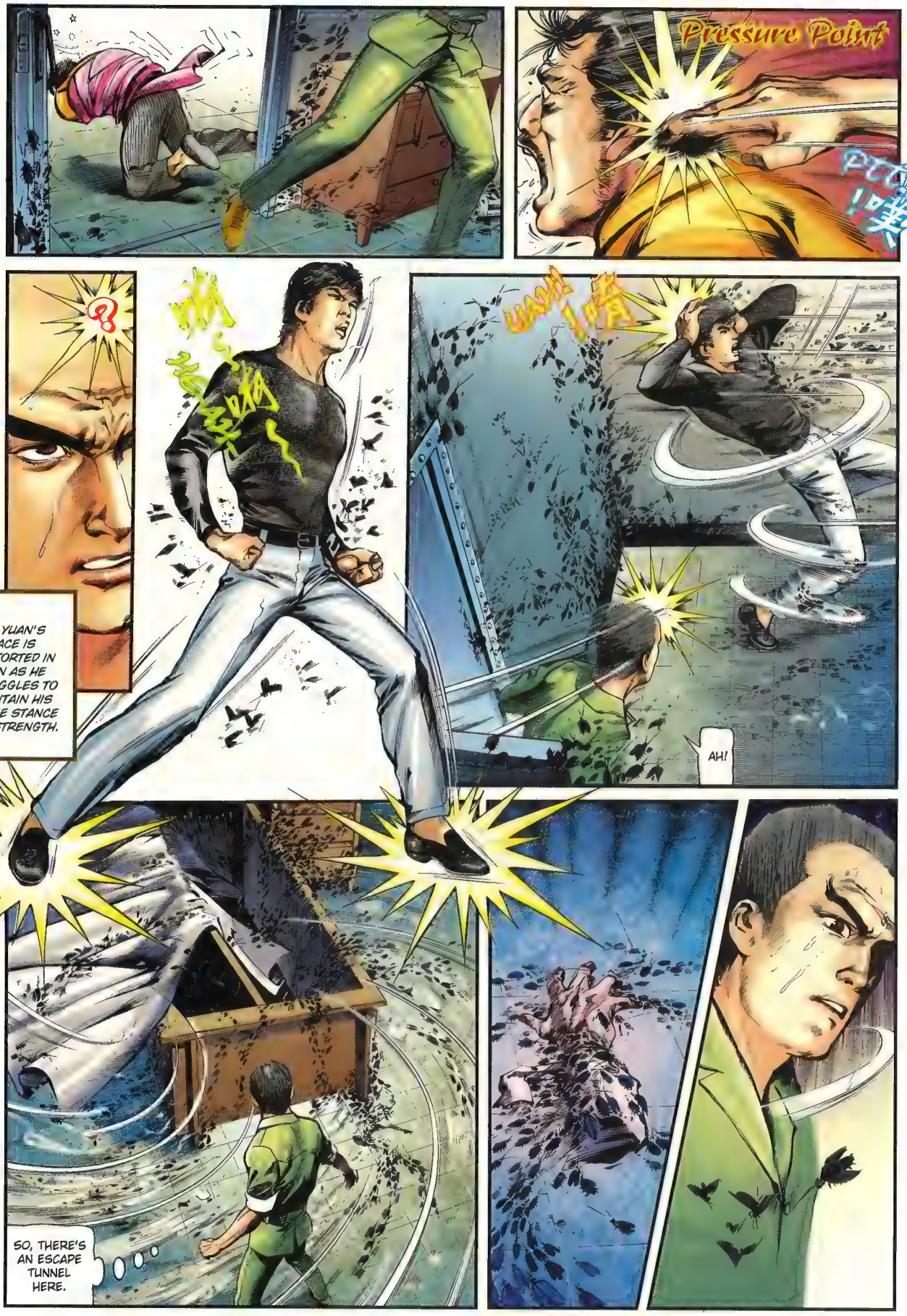

LOHAN SEALS ALL OF WU YUAN'S PRES-SURE POINTS!

中華英雄
Chinese Hero

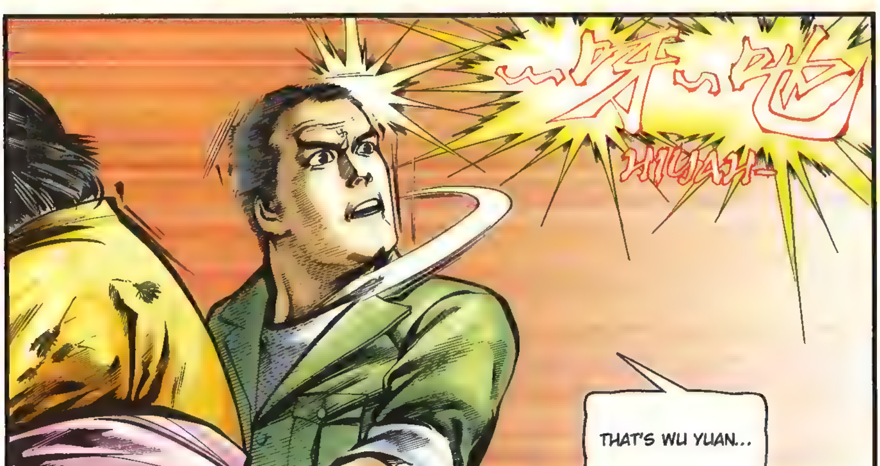
-Tales of the Blood Sword-

Chapter 20:
Blood Thunder

啊啊！啊可
AH... BROTHER LOHAN, PLEASE CUT OFF MY ARMS!
DISEASE MAN HAS BEEN HIDING IN THE ROOM FOR OVER HALF A YEAR. HE CREATED THIS SECRET PASSAGEWAY TO HELP HIM COME AND GO. NOW IT'S HELPED SAVE HIS LIFE.
HE MUST HAVE ESCAPED THROUGH HERE!
I'VE BEEN POISONED... I CAN'T CONTROL IT MUCH LONGER!
WHAT SHOULD I DO?! IF I LEAVE HIM BE, HE'LL SOON BE UNDER DISEASE MAN'S CONTROL! BUT IF I CUT OFF HIS ARMS... MY GOD...
把我双臂砍下来，以免伤害更大！快！快砍！
Please cut off my arms, so that I won't hurt anyone! Hurry! Cut them off!
Though Wu Yuan had been infected by the roach bacteria earlier, his chi was so strong that it prevented him from having an immediate outbreak. Now that he has used up all his chi the disease is progressing with an alarming speed!


Pressure Point
啪!
WU YUAN'S FACE IS CONTORTED IN PAIN AS HE STRUGGLES TO MAINTAIN HIS HORSE STANCE FOR STRENGTH.
AH!
SO, THERE'S AN ESCAPE TUNNEL HERE.

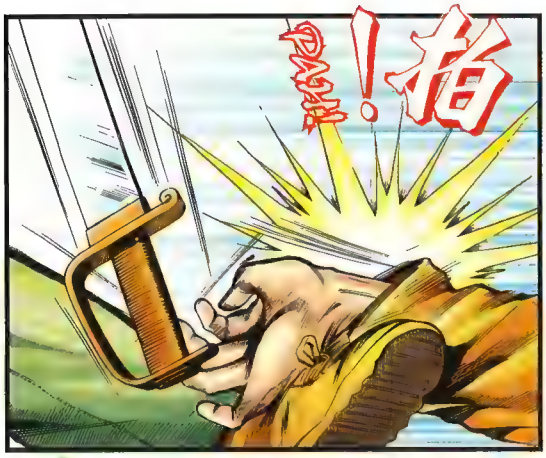
With a loud roar, Wu Yuan unleashes his full strength.
嘿!
WA!
嚓~嚓~
CHA~CHA~
呀!
HE~
呼
FU



~呀~哒
HIIJAH~
THAT'S WU YUAN...

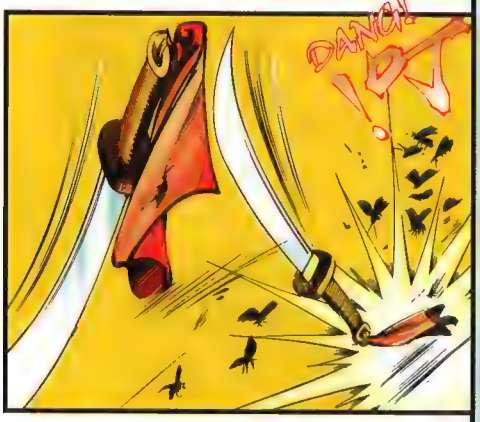
唰!

SO HE USES HIS SWORD TO SPLIT THE SPEAR IN HALF!
!嗬
HE!
CHA-
!啊
AH!
GO FORTH MY BROTHERS!
WHAT, WHY HASN'T THE ROACH BACTERIA WORKED?!
THE ROACHES FLY TOWARD WU YUAN LIKE A BLACK SPEAR...
Remembering the death of his uncle's family, he is filled with rage. His head clears and his anger increases!
WU YUAN HAS A SUDDEN BOUT OF DIZZINESS AND NAUSEA...
But more roaches come at him from another direction!



Lohan's strike is powered by a mighty wave of chi! Zheng Fang's body is suddenly surrounded by it, causing the roaches to fall from his body!

In reality, he was setting them up so that Lohan could use the curtain to send them flying into the next room!


DANG!

TOOM!
PAH!
Wu Yuan takes a kick to the gut and pretends that his broadswords have been knocked away...

Unaware that Lohan and Wu Yuan have formed a secret plan against him, Disease Man dispatches Zhen Fang Yuan to join the attack.

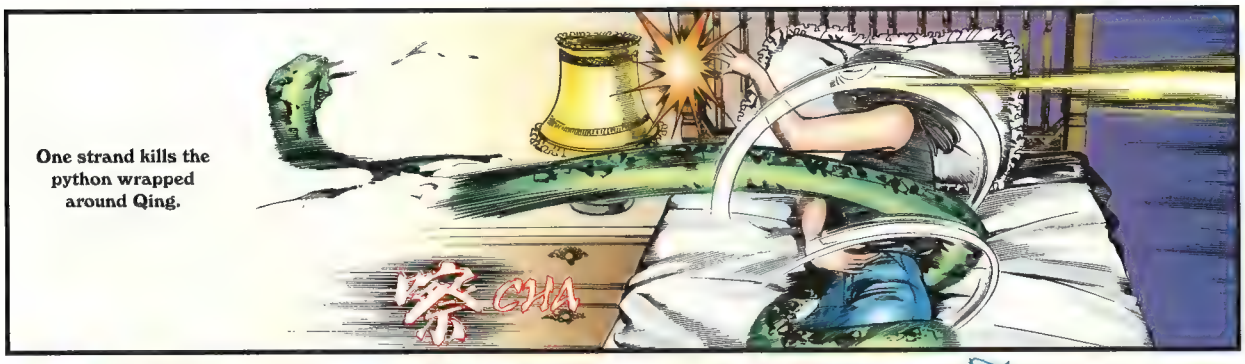
LOHAN IS ONE OF OUR PRIME ENEMIES. IF I KILL HIM, I WILL BE RICHLY REWARDED!
HOW CAN HE BE SO POWERFUL WHEN HE'S ALREADY INJURED?!

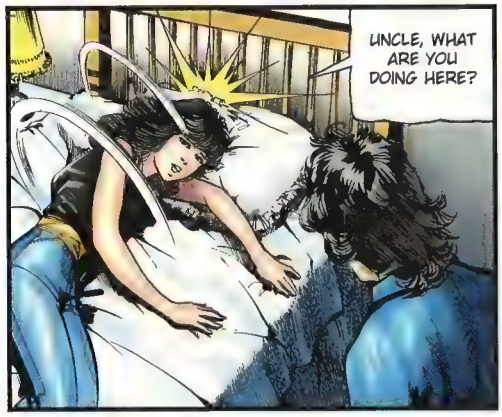
FOOM!
AS THE TWO APPROACH ONE ANOTHER, LOHAN SHOOTS WU YUAN A KNOWING LOOK.

HA, NOW THAT YOU KNOW MY SECRET, YOU HAVE TO DIE TOO!
As soon as the Green King moves, Jian punches...
PAH!
But he only pretends to be struck. Countless roaches fly toward him to attack!
DANG!
Lohan is suddenly attacked!!
Back at the Yuan Martial Arts School...
FU!

HEY BRO, THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO DISCUSS WITH YOU...
Seeing his father captured, Jian shows an unusual calm.
THAT LITTLE PUNK KNOWS HOW TO TURN WITH THE FORTUNES...
BUT HE'S RIGHT, IF HE CAN SO EASILY KILL MY SNAKE AND STOP ME, THEN I HAVE TO KILL HIM NOW. OTHERWISE, IT'LL BE TOO LATE.
PLEASE MR. GREEN KING, I BEG YOU TO SPARE ME!
OH?
THOSE CHAINS WON'T HOLD HIM FOR LONG. YOUR BEST CHANCE IS TO JUST KILL HIM NOW!
WHISTLE!
呀!
UA!
嘶
CHA—

YOU'LL SURRENDER NOW!
The Black King is hesitant. He remembers Hero well.
HUH? IT'S YOU...
IF YOU DON'T WANT THE GIRL TO DIE...
MY CHI IS FAST, BUT THE SNAKE MIGHT BE FASTER. CAN I STRIKE BEFORE IT DOES?
GET ME SOME CHAINS. THIS SUCKER'S A TOUGH ONE!
?
Uuuu
HERO ALLOWS HIMSELF TO BE BOUND.
EVEN IF I AM FASTER, I CAN'T TAKE A CHANCE WITH QING'S LIFE!


One strand kills the python wrapped around Qing.
CHA


UNCLE, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

PU!
The other strand rescues Jian from danger!

HEE HEE! IF YOU MOVE, THE SNAKE WILL GIVE HER A FATAL KISS!

Hero is well versed in medicine. He knows that the green snake will cause instant death if it bites.
THE SNAKE AROUND YOUR ANKLE IS HIGHLY VENOMOUS ...

QING, DON'T MOVE!

NUMBER TWO, WHAT'S HAPPENING?

TMP... TMP TMP...

!嗟
FOOM!
!吼
ROAR!
!呼 FSS!
FOOM!
!嗟
!嘿
HA!
Hero lashes out with the Infinite Hedron Palm!
搗直量無
Measureless Straight Thrust

HE IS SO LIKE ME WHEN I WAS HIS AGE!
IF YOU LET HIM GO NOW, HE'S GONNA KILL MORE BABIES!
Hero is silent. He grabs Jian and quickly leaves.
FATHER, YOU SHOULD KILL THAT EVIL BASTARD!
I WILL LET YOU GO THIS TIME!
AH!
HE!
WHEN I HAVE FINISHED MY PRACTICE, I WILL RIP YOU APART!
The Green King is having a little fun.

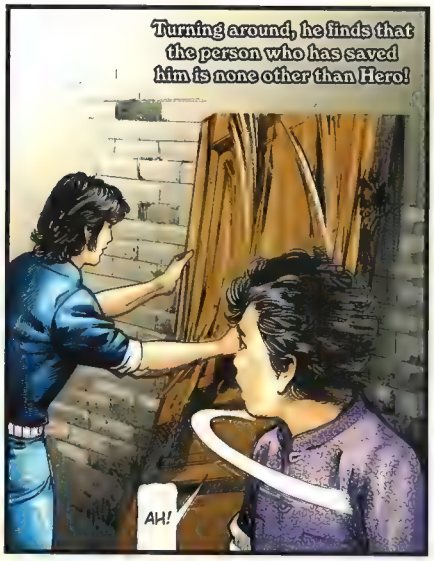
WAH!
嗚~
!噴
FOOM!
AH!
!嗖
!砰
BAM!
!咄
UA!
HUA!
ARE YOU TWO TOGETHER? YOU DARE TO CHALLENGE THE THE FIVE GUARDS!
TRO-UBLE IS COM-ING!
Hero dispatches the two Kings so quickly that Jian feels left out of the action.
Come and have a go if you think you're strong enough! I'll tear you apart!
AH!
The stone walls begin to quake with the Red King's fury.
SHUT UP, YOU DAMNED CANNIBAL, AND GET OUT HERE!

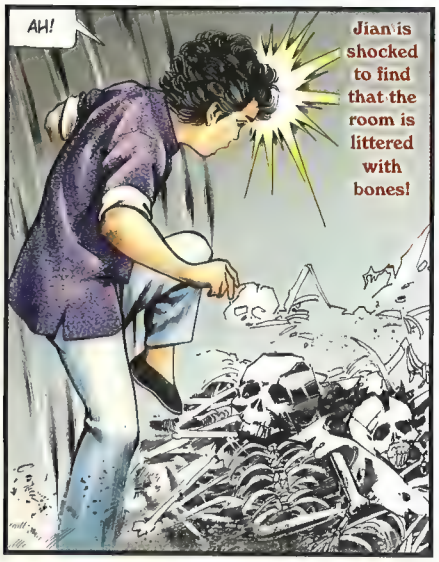
BECAUSE OF THE TWO SPIES BEHIND YOU?
CRUNCH! CRUNCH! CRUNCH!
NUMBER ONE, IT'S BECOMING MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT TO ACQUIRE THE FOOD YOU NEED!
THE LITTLE PUNK DIDN'T FALL TO HIS DEATH!
AH!
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDIN' ME!
BAM!

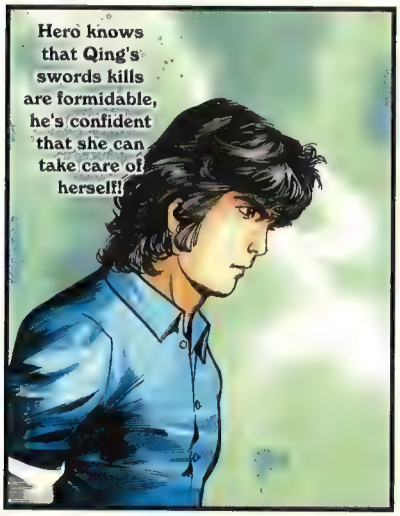
WITH FATHER'S SKILLS, WHY IS HE HIDING FROM THOSE TWO LOUSY PUNKS?
Footsteps echo loudly in the dungeon, so Jian and Hero hide.
THE LEADER OF THE FIVE GUARDS... THE RED KING?
NUMBER ONE, WE'VE FOUND SOME SPIES, SO YOUR FOOD IS A BIT LATE. PLEASE FORGIVE US!
呀!
快遞進來，下次再遲吃掉你們！
Bring it in here now, or next time I will eat you too!
YES SIR!
Jian remembers the infant upstairs...
人肉！
A cannibal!

Jian realizes the extent of his father's concern and love. He feels instantly comforted.
AH!
Father!
Hero thought that with his skills, rescuing Jian would be no problem.
Now, while searching the dungeons, he has found Jian. Is this fate?
Through the strange bond linking father and son, Hero knows that Jian is speaking the truth!
Jian Xiong
孩兒，就是劍雄！
Tam Hai Hong
CREAK
Now, the two are reunited ...
MY CHILD, I UNDERSTAND ...
I... MADE UP THAT STORY BECAUSE I WANTED TO KNOW...

Even in the weak light, Jian sees Hero's face filled with worry!


Turning around, he finds that the person who has saved him is none other than Hero!
AH!


AH!
Jian is shocked to find that the room is littered with bones!

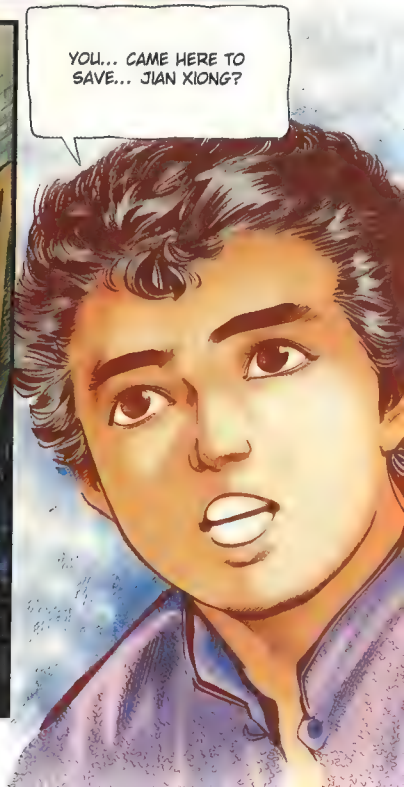

Hero knows that Qing's swords kills are formidable, he's confident that she can take care of herself!

I CAME HERE WITH QING. WE SURPRISED THEM, BUT SHE... SHE MIGHT BE IN DANGER NOW...

Hero doesn't answer, instead he asks...
UNCLE HERO, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
DID YOU COME HERE ALONE?

HE WAS DETERMINED NOT TO STIR UP TROUBLE, BUT HE WANTED TO RESCUE JIAN, SO HE SNUCK UP ON THE FIVE GUARDS' HALL...
UPON HEARING OF HIS SON'S CAPTURE BY THE FIVE GUARDS, HERO WAS FILLED WITH ANXIETY, BUT HE WAS DOING HIS BEST TO SUPPRESS HIS FEELINGS.

Hero doesn't answer, but he looks down at the bones on the ground with concern!


YOU... CAME HERE TO SAVE... JIAN XIONG?

He is a demented pervert and rapist!
The Five Guards Number Two:
Green King
His martial arts skills are several times more powerful than those of his closest cohorts.
THAT GIRL IS A PAIN, BUT HER SWORD STYLE IS NO JOKE!
DAMN, NUMBER TWO GOT A GOOD ONE!
Meanwhile, Jian falls toward the bottom of the trap!
THANK YOU FOR SAVING ME...
DAAH!
Jian lands against the door, but his fall is cushioned by a wave of energy that prevents him from getting hurt.
PU!
HEK!

哇!
WAH!
But the snake is merely a distraction.
HSSS!
!呼
AH!
!呼
SSS!
!
Another snake winds around her leg!
Qing is still inexperienced in battle and is immediately captured by the large snake!
HEHE, WHAT A BEAUTIFUL, ENERGETIC YOUNG WOMAN!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS BEAUTY!
AH!

YA!
YAH!
哇！那裏來的靚女？
Where'd the babe come from?!
CHA~CHA~
PAK!
Qing doesn't want to kill anyone. Her stars merely maim the opponents!
AAH!
Snake!
FOOM!
THE KINGS ARE ALL WORTHLESS FIGHTERS. ONE MORE WON'T MAKE A DIFFERENCE!
NUMBER TWO IS HERE!
CHA - CHA -

Qing runs forward, but it's too late, the trap door has shut!
KLAK!
The stars on her sword shoot forth!
FOOM!
The two Kings are struck before the Black King and his gang members!
WHAT ?
Faced with superior numbers, Qing knows she must quickly take control of the situation. She must capture one of them and use him as a hostage to demand Jian's release!

!啊
AH!
FU!
!咻
FU!
JIAN DOESN'T WORRY! PRESSING HIS PALMS AGAINST THE WALL, HE RELEASES A STRANGE ADHESIVE ENERGY WHICH SLOWS DOWN HIS DESCENT. HE LEARNED THIS TECHNIQUE FROM THE HEAVEN SCROLLS... GECKO SEIZING DRAGON STYLE!
!噗
HOPE THIS WORKS!
PAH!
!啪
AH-
呀~~
AH-
呀~~
AH-
呀~~
呀!
AH-
!呀
AH!
!嘭
PAH!
But unfortunately, the door is tossed down as well!

Did
Jian has seen many villains in his lifetime, but this is too much.

YOU BEASTS! YOU HAVE NO SOULS!
BAM!

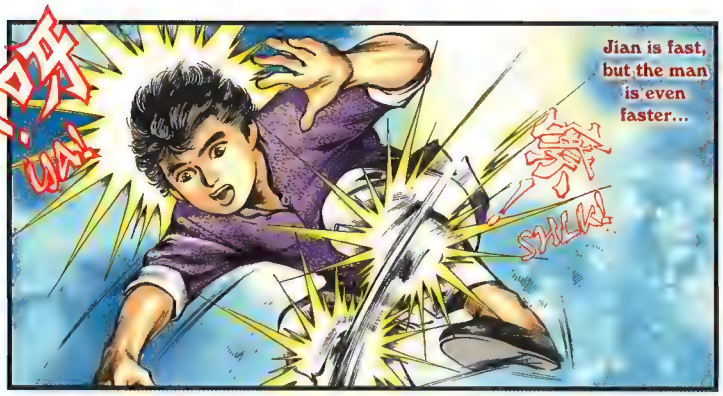
Seeing Jian so energized shocks even Qing!

The indifference from his father, the brutality of these killers, both are fuel for his rage!
BAM!
BAM!

NO!

The Blue King doesn't deny their claims!
DIE!
THEY'RE BEASTS!
THERE'S BEEN A STRING OF INFANT KIDNAPPINGS IN THIS AREA RECENTLY. SO YOU'RE THE ONES BEHIND IT!
Qing uses her special technique, Qing Rope Sword Style!
I WON'T LET YOU MONSTERS GO!
Seven Star Life Snatcher Sword
Seven Chain
OH!
HA!
HA!
Compared to Qing, the two Kings seem like second-rate fighters!
AH!

DANG!
DO YOU SEE WHAT THEY DID?! WE'RE TOO LATE!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
OW!
Blue king
NOW WE CAN'T LET YOU GO!!!
White king


Jian is fast, but the man is even faster...

FU!
YOU WANNA DIE, PUNK?!
FU!

JIAN IS CUT, BUT HE DOES NOT SLOW HIS MOVE-MENTS.

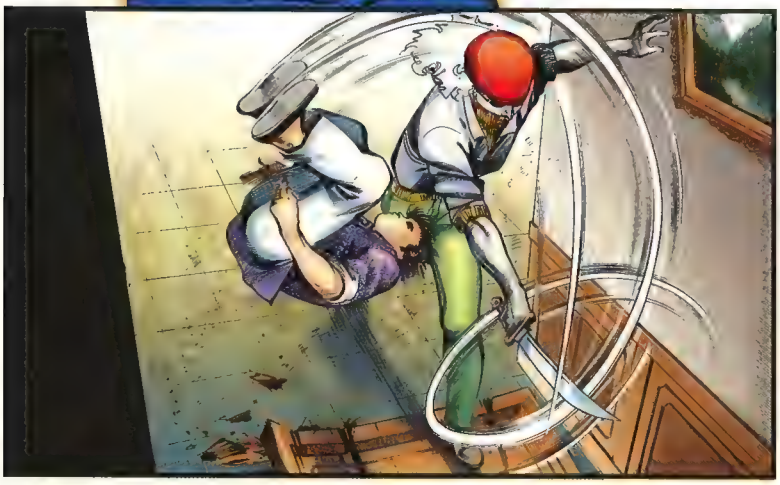
HE SEES THE INFANT ON THE TABLETOP...

AH!
Like a monkey, he slides beneath the man!

Blusssh!

THE CHILD IS...

黃色五
The Five Guards



中華英雄

Chinese Hero

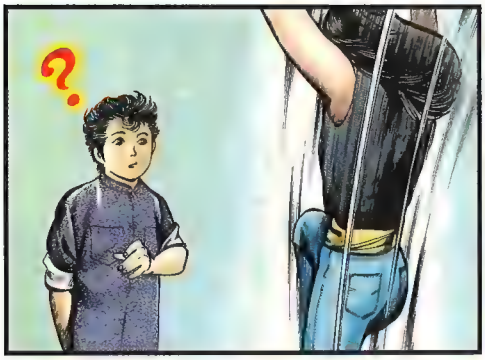
-Tales of the Blood Sword-

Chapter 19:
The Five Guards

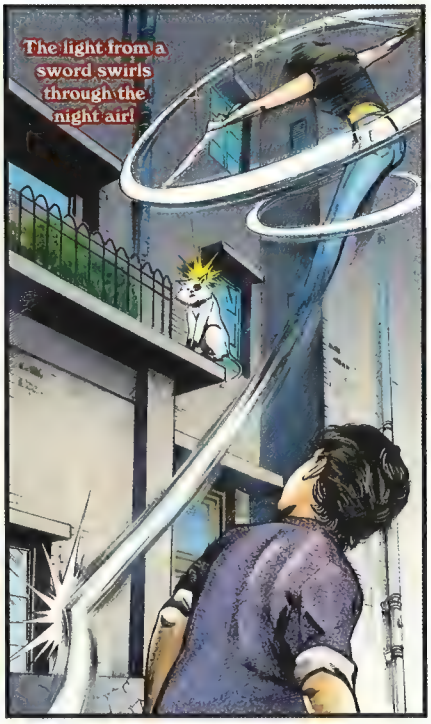
A sense of outrage fills Jian and he kicks the door apart, shocking Qing!
HA!
AHH!
BOOM!
ROAR!
Who's there?
BAM!
The door flies from its hinges!

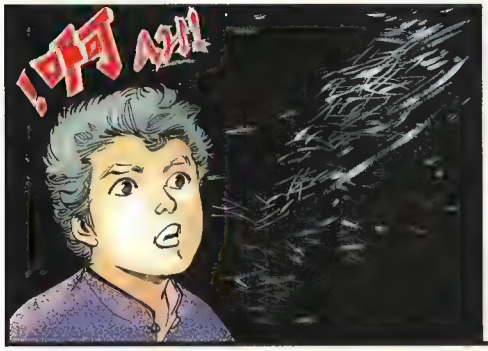
THEY MUST HAVE KIDNAPPED THAT BABY! WHAT ARE THEY DOING WITH IT?
HURRY UP!
NUMBER FOUR, WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?
IT'S GETTING HARDER AND HARDER TO FIND MONTH-OLD BABIES!
LET'S GO TAKE A LOOK!
YOU'RE RIGHT!
CAN'T BE ANYTHING GOOD!
COULD THEY BE THE ONES...

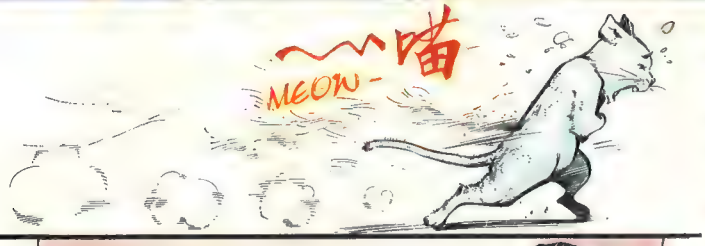
TELL ME, WHY ARE YOU DOING ALL THIS TO SAVE JIAN?
WE SHOULD GO IN TOO...
HOLD IT!
AS THE MAN DARTS INSIDE, THEY SEE THAT HE IS CARRYING AN INFANT!
OH! SO YOU WANT TO MAKE MY FATHER HAPPY! HEE HEE...
BECAUSE UNCLE HERO IS IN A REALLY LOUSY MOOD, AND IF WE RESCUE JIAN HE'LL BE HAPPY AGAIN!
SEEING NO ONE IN THE ROOM, THEY DIVE IN!
SHE WAS TAUGHT BY SWORD SAINT, SO OF COURSE SHE'S GOOD!
PHEW ...
QING PEEKS OUT OF THE ROOM AND SEES THE MAN WITH THE BABY!
I DON'T KNOW, LET'S LOOK FOR HIM!
WHERE IS JIAN BEING HELD?

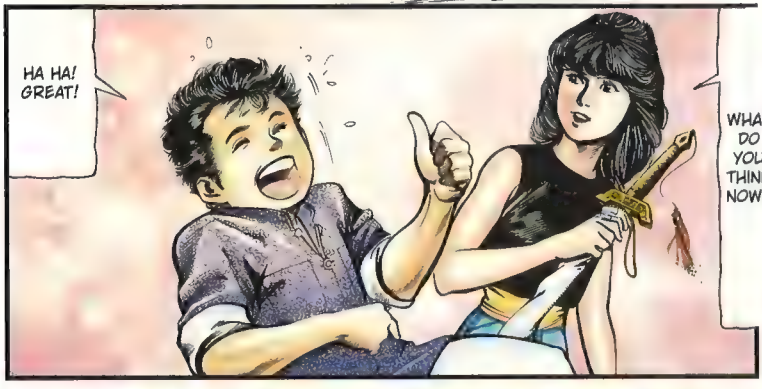

?

喵~!
MEOW~
SHU!

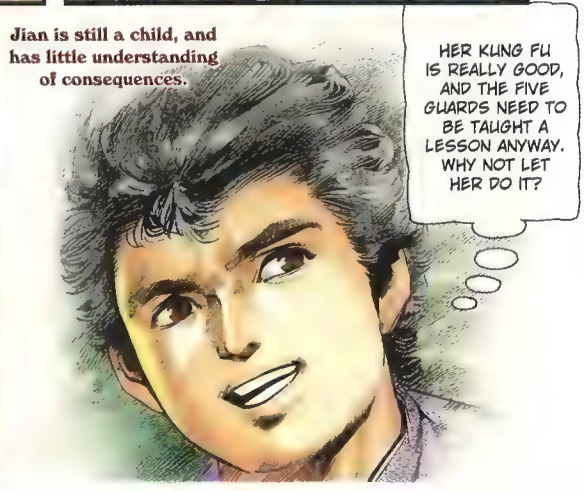

The light from a sword swirls through the night air!


啊 AH!


喵~
MEOW~

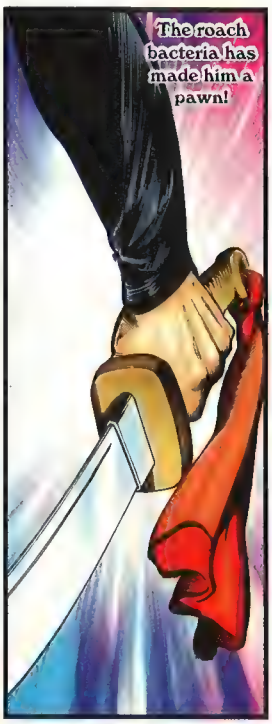

HA HA! GREAT!
WHAT DO YOU THINK NOW?

A dark shadow heads toward the Five Guards Hall!


Jian is still a child, and has little understanding of consequences.
HER KUNG FU IS REALLY GOOD, AND THE FIVE GUARDS NEED TO BE TAUGHT A LESSON ANYWAY. WHY NOT LET HER DO IT?

SO... WHERE ARE THE TWO OF YOU HEADED?
I'M GOING TO SHOW HIM AROUND CHINATOWN!
QING, DON'T CAUSE TROUBLE!
UNCLE MOON, YOU KNOW I WOULD NEVER DO THAT, DON'T WORRY!
WHY DID YOU GET ME TO COME OUT WITH YOU?
Moon Gate Master has watched Qing grow up from a little girl. He's filled with worry.
WE'LL BE BACK SOON!
AH... RESCUE JIAN? WELL...
I'LL GO WITH YOU AGAINST THE FIVE GUARDS AND RESCUE JIAN!
AH!
YOU MUST DOUBT MY ABILITIES!
Qing suddenly jumps up...

FOOM!
殺


The roach bacteria has made him a pawn!

China Tower
中華樓

AH!
FU!

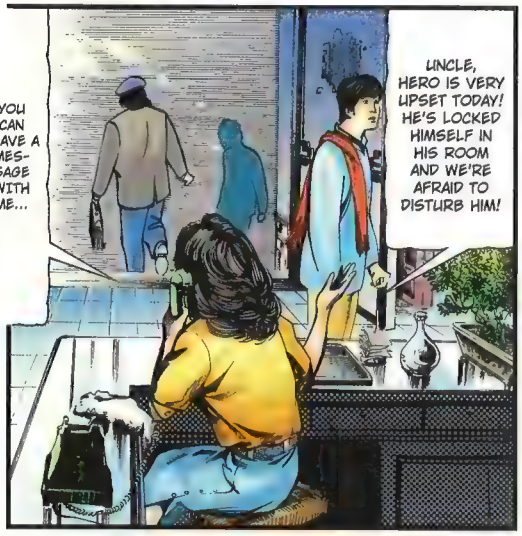
UA!
吼

WU YUAN IS MORE DETERMINED THAN EVER TO STOP THE GANG AFTER SPEAKING WITH LOHAN!
BESIDES, THE BLACK DRAGON GENERAL HAS DEALINGS WITH MANY MILITARY AND POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS, GIVING HIM MORE POWER TO DO AS HE PLEASES!
THE BLACK DRAGON GANG HAS SO MUCH POWER THAT IT'S BECOME A MAJOR FORCE WITHIN THE COUNTRY. THE LAW CAN'T TOUCH THEM!
THE TWO DARE NOT LEAVE, THEY TAKE TURNS ON WATCH. NOW, LOHAN IS RESTING!
IT'S TIME!
BOOM!
BUT, SOMETHING SEEMS WRONG WITH WU YUAN!
KILL HIM!

BELOW THE GENERAL ARE:
CORPS (LIEUTENANT GENERAL), DIVISION (MAJOR GENERAL), BRIGADE (BRIGADIER GENERAL), REGIMENT (COLONEL), BATTALION (LIEUTENANT COLONEL), COMPANY (CAPTAIN), AND PLATOON (LIEUTENANT.)

He's been here all along, practicing his secret
Roach Technique!
Posing as Gan, he forced Zhen Fang Yuan to provide him with a healthy diet of roaches!

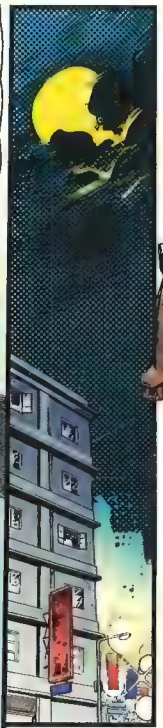
While Gan was imprisoned, he snuck in and killed him!
But this was all part of "Disease Man's" plan!

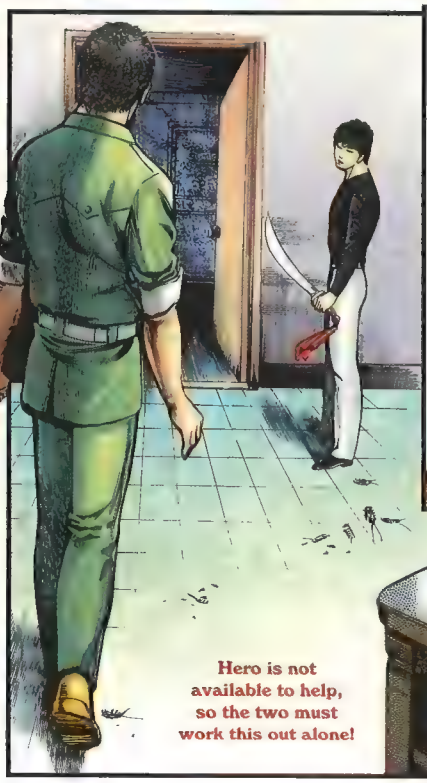

YOU CAN LEAVE A MESSAGE WITH ME...
UNCLE, HERO IS VERY UPSET TODAY! HE'S LOCKED HIMSELF IN HIS ROOM AND WE'RE AFRAID TO DISTURB HIM!

OH, IS THIS UNCLE LOHAN?

RING... RING...

BROTHER LOHAN, I'M SORRY TO HAVE DRAGGED YOU INTO THIS!
WE ARE FRIENDS. THERE'S NO NEED TO BE SO POLITE. BESIDES, WE BOTH WANT TO DESTROY THE BLACK DRAGON GANG.




Hero is not available to help, so the two must work this out alone!

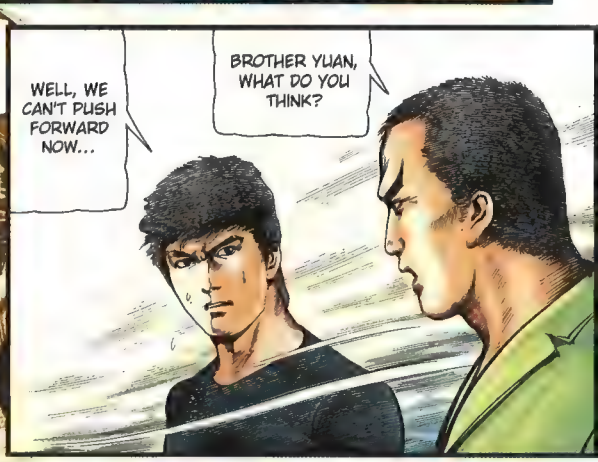
I'M SURE NOTHING'S WRONG. I'LL COME VISIT HIM ANOTHER DAY!

They act as a thousand tiny guards, protecting the door.

PU!
PU!
With the door closed, the roaches rush in through the small window.

Inside the room, Disease Man begins channel his powers!

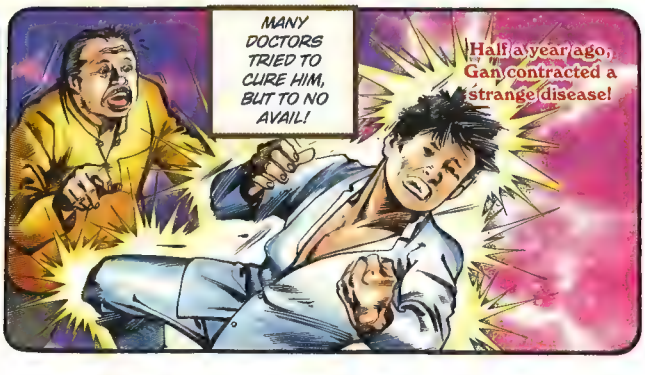
GAN AND MY UNCLE MAY BE IN THERE!


WELL, WE CAN'T PUSH FORWARD NOW...
BROTHER YUAN, WHAT DO YOU THINK?

IN THREE DAYS TIME, MY ROACH TECHNIQUE WILL BE COMPLETED. THEN I WILL MAKE THEM THE FIRST SACRIFICES!

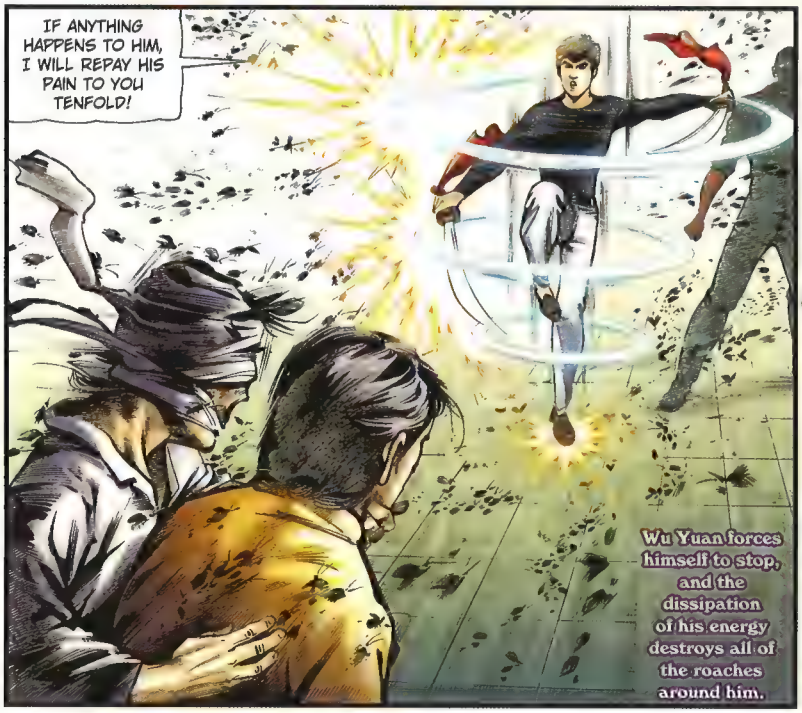
THE TWO OF THEM ARE POWERFUL, BUT THEY WON'T DARE ATTACK WITH ZHEN FANG YUAN IN MY HANDS!

Gan's condition quickly worsened and his flesh began to rot away. His thoughts became warped, and his violent outbursts forced Zhen Fang Yuan to lock him in a reinforced steel room!


MANY DOCTORS TRIED TO CURE HIM, BUT TO NO AVAIL!
Half a year ago, Gan contracted a strange disease!

FU!!
I CAN'T BE THREATENED!
AH!
察...察...察...
CHA... CHA... CHA...
WELL DONE, MY BROTHERS!
HMPH!
SHO!
LOHAN JUMPS A SECOND TOO LATE!
BAM!
IF YOU DO ANYTHING TO THREATEN ME, I'LL BE FORCED TO KILL HIM!
HAH!

SHO!
嗖
Snow Broadsword Style
Flower in the Sky
漫天雪花劍


IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO HIM, I WILL REPAY HIS PAIN TO YOU TENFOLD!
Wu Yuan forces himself to stop, and the dissipation of his energy destroys all of the roaches around him.

NOT SO FAST OR HE'LL DIE BEFORE ME...

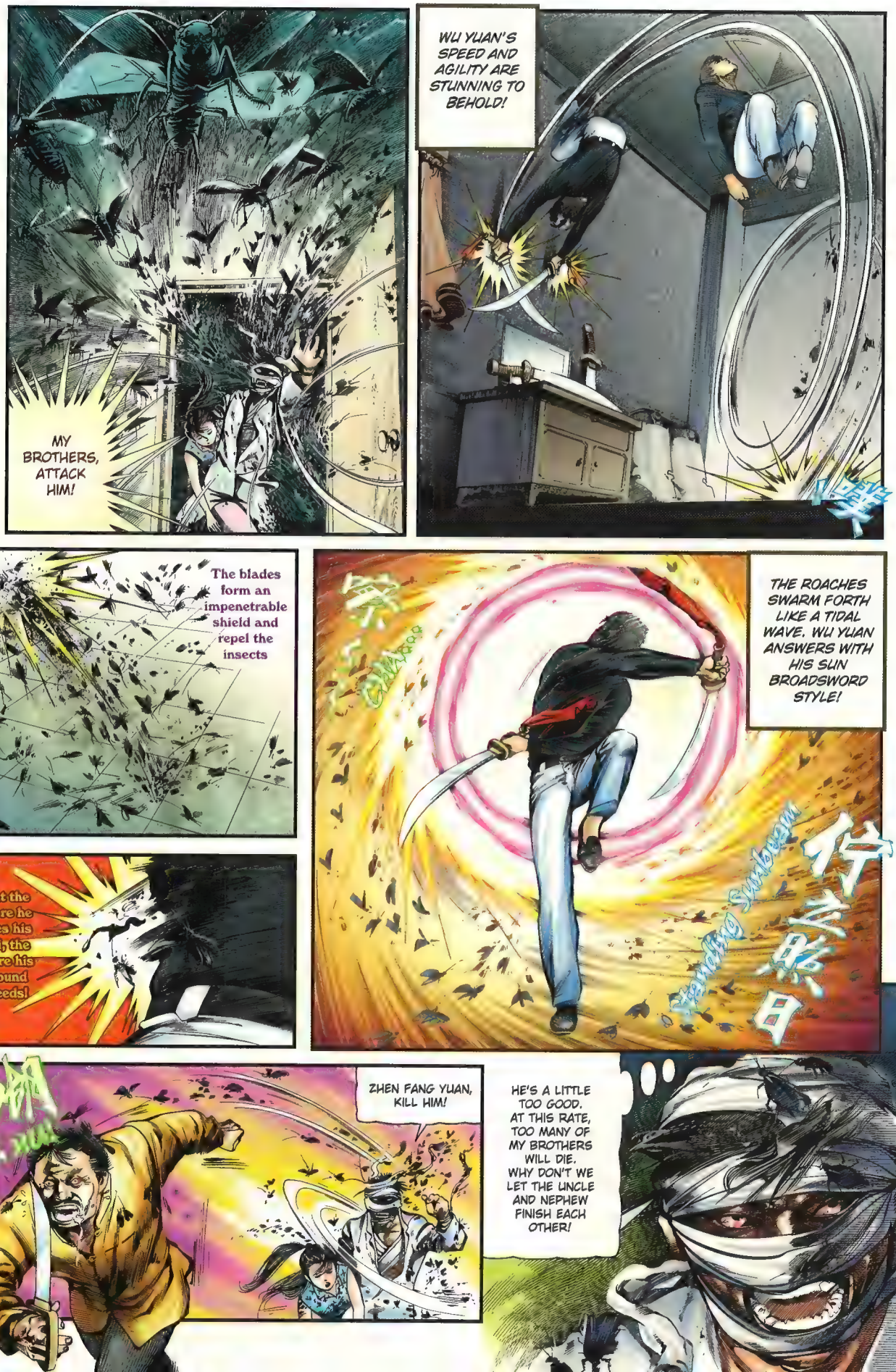
With a loud roar, Wu Yuan explodes...
WHA?!
?!
CRASH!
AH!

YOU CAN'T SCARE ME!
Circulating his chi, Wu Yuan cannot detect any problems!
HAHA! ONCE THE BACTERIA HAS ENTERED THE BLOODSTREAM, IT WILL ONLY TAKE TWELVE HOURS FOR HIM TO BECOME MY SLAVE...
ROACH BACTERIA?
Wu Yuan makes use of the time to heal himself!
But the man uses Lan as a shield!
Wu Yuan swings his blades toward the diseased man like a fierce tiger!
DAMN!
MONSTER... STOP!
come get me if you can!

Suddenly, Lohan is there, waving a torch!
Lohan is well familiar with the Black Dragon Gang. After seeing the roach illness he knew that the mastermind would be lurking nearby.
HMPH! NOW YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO HURT ANYONE ELSE!
IS THIS THE ONE WHO'S BEEN STIRRING UP SO MUCH TROUBLE? IS THIS LOHAN?
YOU'RE INCREDIBLY FAST!
HA HA! YOU'RE TOO LATE! YOUR FRIEND HAS ALREADY BEEN CUT BY A BLADE STAINED WITH THE ROACH BACTERIA! THIS IS THE PRICE YOU PAY FOR DEFYING ME!

WU YUAN DOES NOT WANT TO HURT HIS UNCLE, SO HE IMMEDIATELY SWITCHES TO SPINNING FISH STYLE.

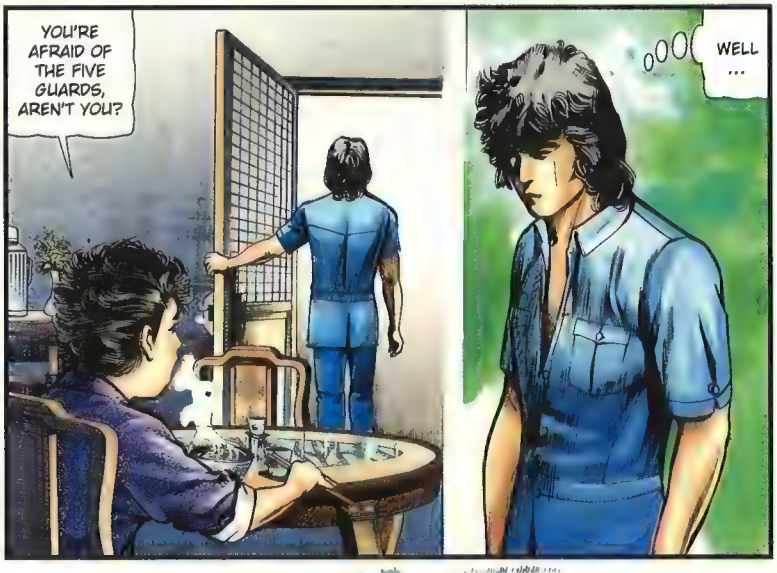
THIS IS THE STRONGEST BROADSWORD PROTECTIVE STANCE AND WILL KEEP ZHEN FANG YUAN AND THE ROACHES AWAY FROM HIM!


MY BROTHERS, ATTACK HIM!
WU YUAN'S SPEED AND AGILITY ARE STUNNING TO BEHOLD!
The blades form an impenetrable shield and repel the insects
But the more he uses his chi, the more his wound bleeds!
THE ROACHES SWARM FORTH LIKE A TIDAL WAVE. WU YUAN ANSWERS WITH HIS SUN BROADSWORD STYLE!
ZHEN FANG YUAN, KILL HIM!
HE'S A LITTLE TOO GOOD. AT THIS RATE, TOO MANY OF MY BROTHERS WILL DIE. WHY DON'T WE LET THE UNCLE AND NEPHEW FINISH EACH OTHER!

UNCLE, ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT JIAN, TOO?

I'M WORRIED ABOUT JIAN, I DON'T HAVE AN APPE-TITE!
ARE YOU FULL?

HE...
YOUNG MAN, HE'S BEEN ACTIVELY TRYING TO AVOID TROUBLE, ESPECIALLY SINCE THE FIVE GUARDS ARE PART OF THE BLACK DRAGON GANG.
The young woman is also hoping Hero will oppose the gang. Her words are meant to goad Hero into action!

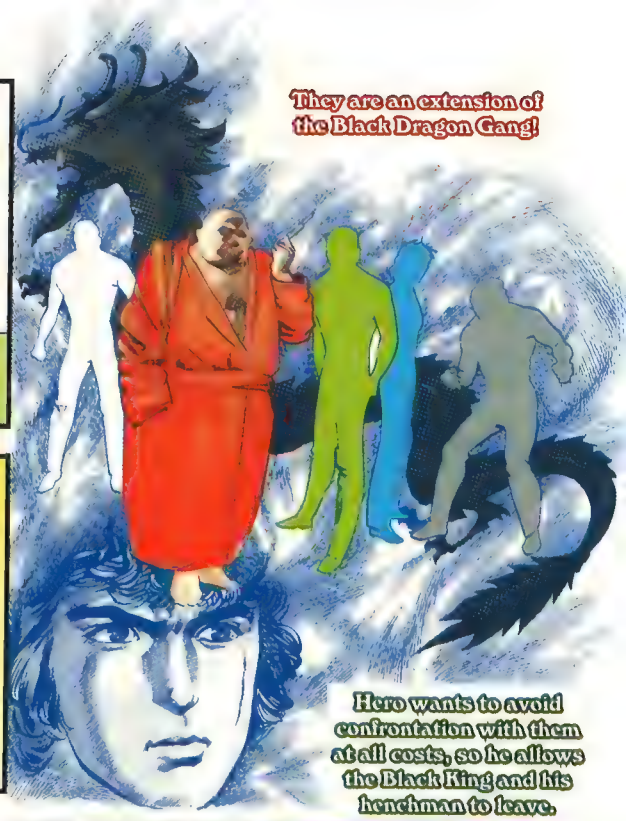

YOU'RE AFRAID OF THE FIVE GUARDS, AREN'T YOU?
WELL ...

Meanwhile, Wu Yuan is still fighting for his life!

ROAR!
He quickly jumps back and uses his chi to repel the roaches.

Now his father shows signs of fearing the Black Dragon Gang and has no intention of rescuing him... Jian is devastated!
Jian has not been with his father since birth and is unsure of his place in Hero's heart!

I JUST WANT PEACE AND QUIET...
WHY DID YOU LET THEM GO SO EASILY ?

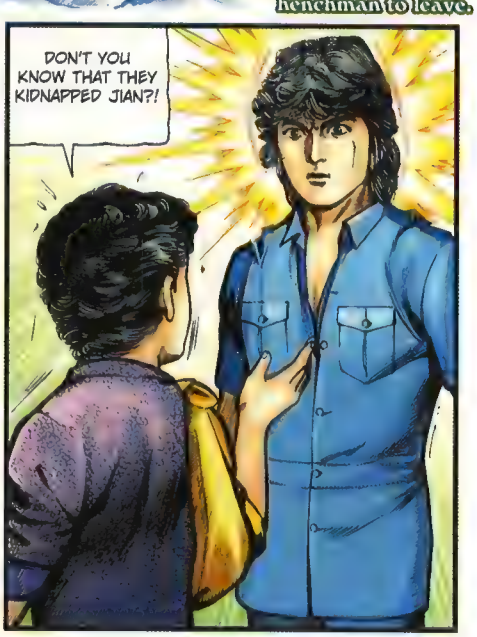

They are an extension of the Black Dragon Gang!
Hero wants to avoid confrontation with them at all costs, so he allows the Black Ring and his henchman to leave.

WE DON'T NEED THAT KIND OF TROU-BLE!

ARE YOU AFRAID OF THEM?

HE'S BEEN CAPTURED BY THE FIVE GUARDS. YOU SHOULD GO RESCUE HIM!

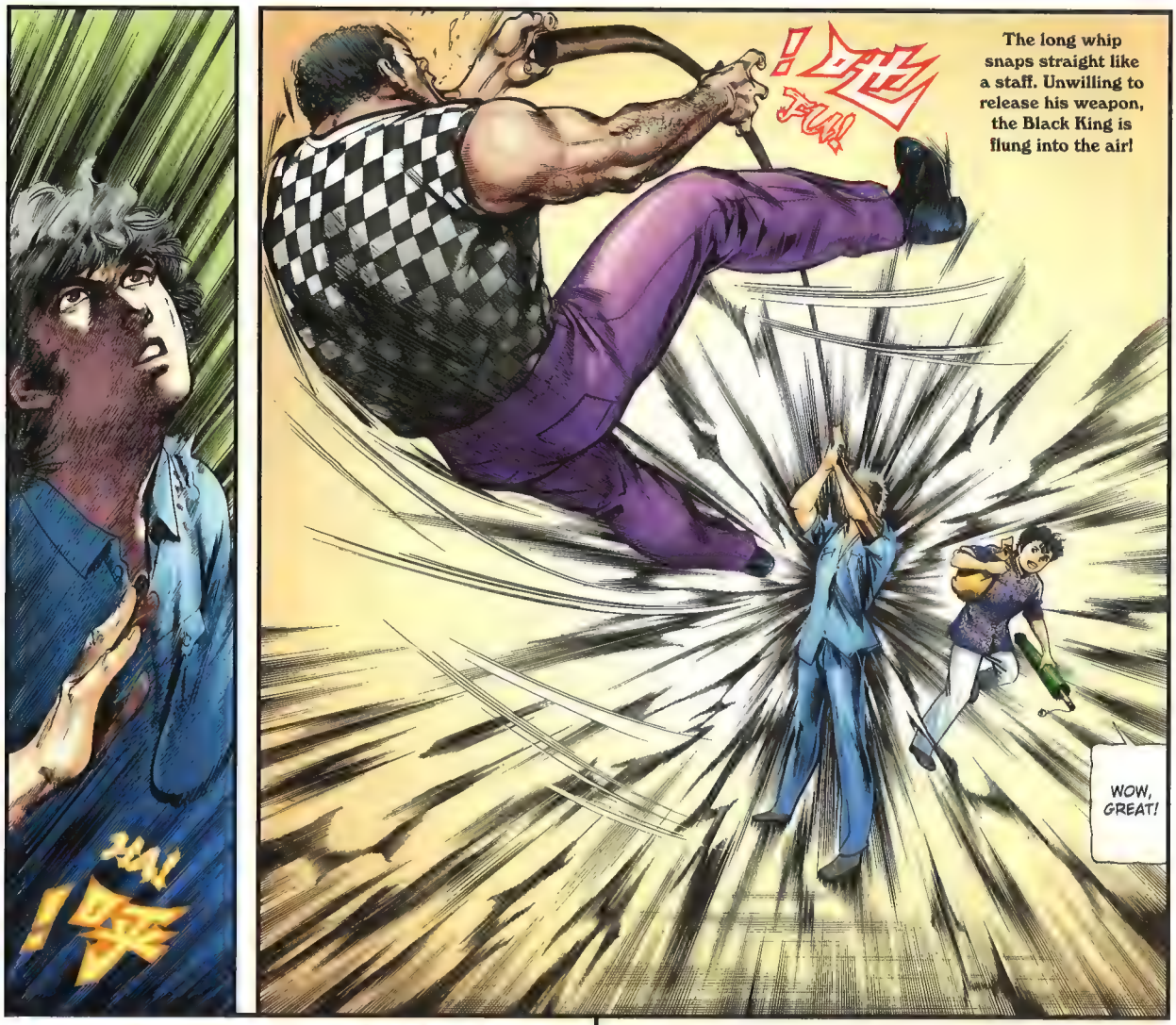
Jian lies to his father to test him.
LAST NIGHT, JIAN AND I MET UP WITH THEM...


DON'T YOU KNOW THAT THEY KIDNAPPED JIAN?!

He talks endlessly about Sheng Nu and "Jian," so Hero will know they are still alive!

Back at China Tower...

LET'S GO!
OKAY!
HMPH!
WHAT, YOU WANNA FIGHT AGAIN?
MAN, YOU'VE GONE AND PISSED OFF THE FIVE GUARDS?! IT'S OVER FOR YOU NOW!
The Five Guards control a local gambling hall in China-town.
He is the last of the Five Guards. Each is noted by a specific color: red, green, blue, white, or black.
THE BLACK KING HAD ONLY RECENTLY DEFEATED THE DEUCES GANG, WHICH HAD EARNED HIM THE RIGHT TO BE ONE OF THE FIVE GUARDS.


The long whip snaps straight like a staff. Unwilling to release his weapon, the Black King is flung into the air!
WOW, GREAT!

BLACK KING, WHY DON'T WE STOP HERE!
HERO SPEAKS CALMLY, BUT HIS EYES SHOW A FIERCE LIGHT, ENOUGH TO COW BLACK KING.

Landing softly on the ground, the Black King avoids an embarrassing fall!

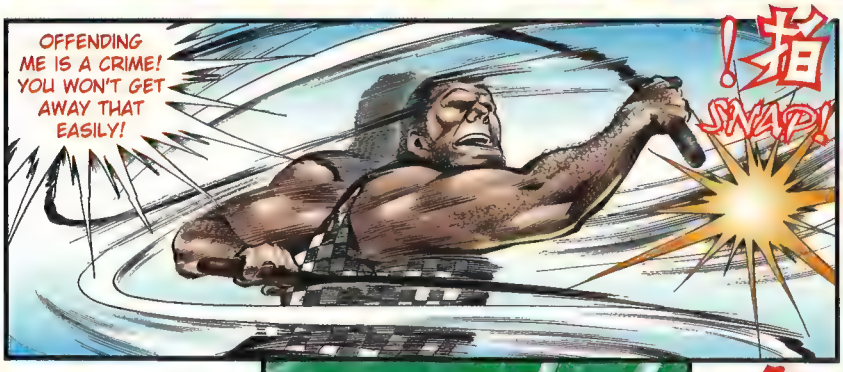
Hero snatches Black King from midair!

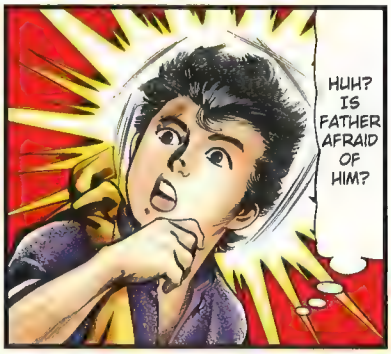
PUNK!
SHO!
嗖!
!嚯
WAH!
SNAP!
!啪
SUDDENLY, THE WHIP SNAPS BACKWARD AND STRIKES THE BLACK KING!
THE WHIP IS DEFLECTED BY A MYSTERIOUS FORCE BEFORE IT CAN REACH JIAN'S FACE!
FU!
!呼
!嗖
FU!
HMPH!
FU!
!呼
AH!
YOU DON'T KNOW WHEN TO STOP!
UA!
!吐
Hero clamps the whip and uses it to channel his chi. The force of his energy is like a bolt of lightning as it strikes the Black King.

WHY DOESN'T HE DODGE?

!拍
PAH!
!拍
PAH!

BLACK KING, YOU'VE STRUCK ME SEVERAL TIMES. LET'S CALL US EVEN NOW.


OFFENDING ME IS A CRIME! YOU WON'T GET AWAY THAT EASILY!
!拍
SNAP!


HUH? IS FATHER AFRAID OF HIM?

!停手呀!

Jian had always pictured his father as a fearless fighter, but this image is shattered completely as he watches his father get struck repeatedly.

!波
PO!
Hero does not dodge, for his chi is protecting him. Every blow is repelled a half-inch from his body!

HE'S THE BLACK KING, ONE OF THE FIVE GUARDS. HE'S TROUBLE...
MAN, YOU'VE GOT SOME GUTS...
AH! THAT'S THE BLACK KING INSIDE THE CAR!
THE KING SEEMS TO BE WELL KNOWN. THE PEDESTRIANS NEARBY QUICKLY FLEE THE SCENE.
AH!
Black King snaps his whip in the air, aiming it right toward Hero!
SWOSH
YOU WANNA DIE, YOU YELLOW PUNK?!

五戒功力
50% power
嘿!
HA!

Hero's chi bursts through the vehicle. The pressure shatters the windows and blows the gang members right out of the doors!

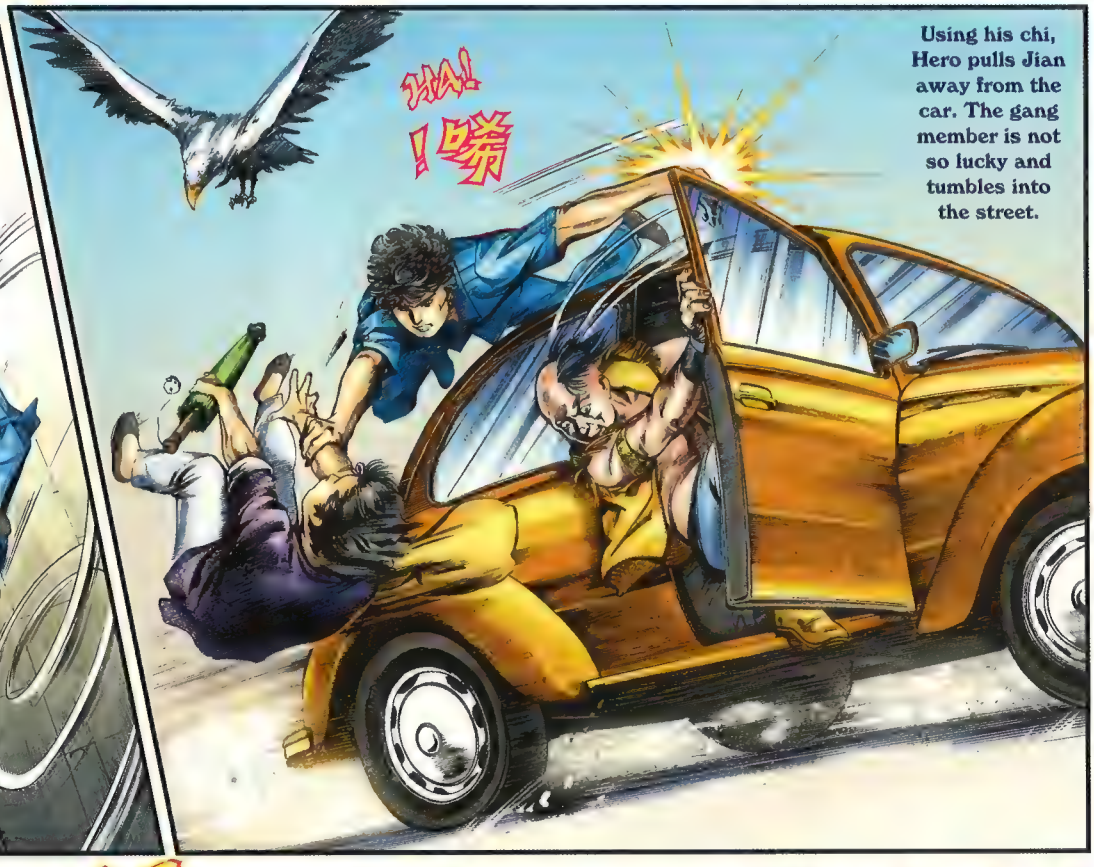
YUAH!
嘩!
轟!
BOOM!

WATCH OUT!
Finally face to face with his father, Jian finds himself speechless.
YOU'RE....
LITTLE BROTHER, DID SHENG NU AND JIAN ASK YOU TO COME LOOK FOR ME?
GRANDFATHER SAID THAT FATHER'S INFINITE HEDRON PALM IS UNDEFEATED... NOW'S MY CHANCE TO SEE IT IN ACTION!
STEP ASIDE, I'LL DEAL WITH THIS!
HE... HE...
To protect Jian, Hero is forced to act!

CRUNCH!

Hero has arrived!

Hero grabs Jian and they both float to the ground.
FU!


HA!
Using his chi, Hero pulls Jian away from the car. The gang member is not so lucky and tumbles into the street.

WOW!

A Hero Rises Again

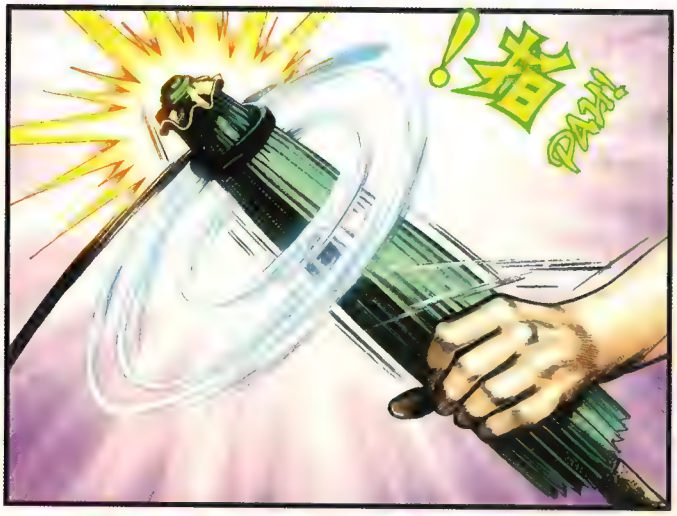
中華英雄

Chinese Hero

-Tales of the Blood Sword-

Chapter 18:
A Hero Rises Again

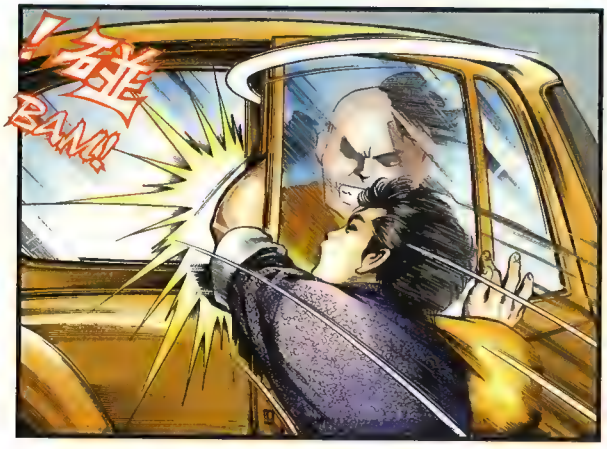
HE DARES TO TOUCH MY WHIP, I'LL SHOW HIM!
ALL RIGHT, BRO!
Ah! That's him!

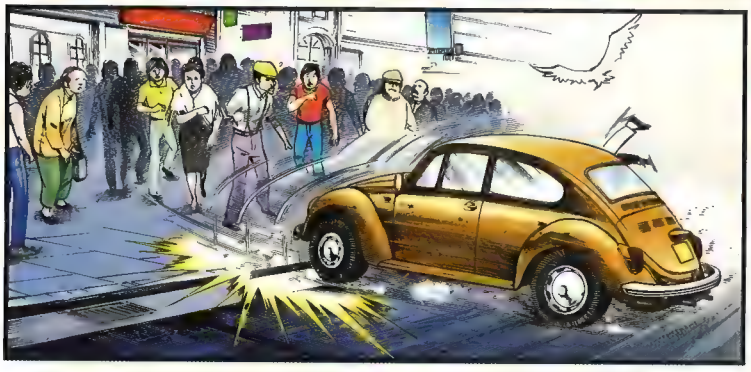

!啪
PAH!

!啪
PAH!
!吼
KUAH!
PAH!
!啪

THE WHIP AROUND JIAN'S UMBRELLA IS SUDDENLY JERKED BACK AND JIAN IS PULLED TOWARD THE CAR!
WAH!

I HAVEN'T DONE ANY-THING WRONG! DON'T PUSH ME TOO FAR!


!轰
BANG!



!轰
SCREECH!

BAM!
CHINESE PUNK, LOOKS LIKE TODAY'S YOUR UNLUCKY DAY!
It's one of the Milk Men, looking for a little payback!
STUPID BIRD!
SLAP!
OUCH!
SHO!
PAH!

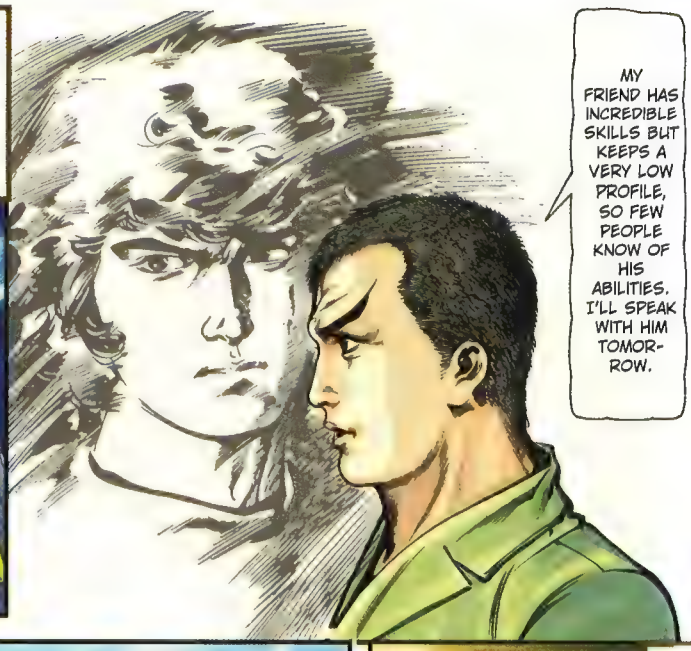
SHENG NU HAD TOLD JIAN TO GO TO CHINA TOWER TO SEARCH FOR HIS FATHER!
JIAN WENT TO CHINA TOWER AS HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED ONLY TO LEARN THAT HIS FATHER ACTUALLY LIVED THERE! HE IS ELATED!
I'M GOING OUT TO LOOK FOR HIM! IF HE RETURNS, TELL HIM TO STAY PUT!
WHSH!
As he awaits his first meeting with his father, Jian is filled with conflicting emotions.
HE HASN'T VISITED MOTHER'S GRAVE IN FIFTEEN YEARS. MAYBE HE'S FORGOTTEN ABOUT US.
HE'S STILL NOT BACK YET, I WONDER WHERE HE WENT.
GRANDFATHER OFTEN TOLD ME THAT FATHER'S KUNG FU IS REALLY POWERFUL. I WONDER IF THAT'S TRUE!
HUA!

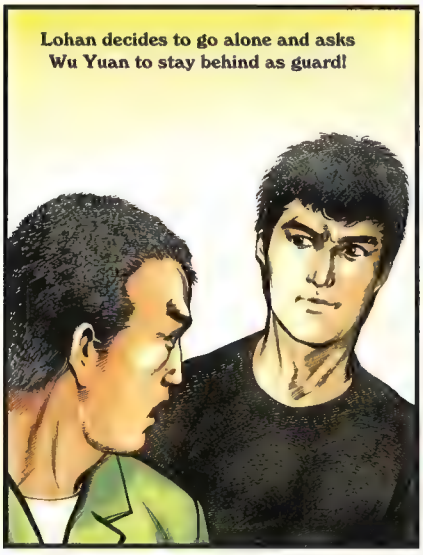
Hero is a very serious businessman. He rarely smiles or chitchats, so his neighbors all think he's a very strange person.
BOSS, THERE WAS A KID LOOKING FOR YOU THIS MORNING!
Hero left early that morning to purchase supplies and is back at the teahouse by noon.
HE WAITED A FEW HOURS AND WOULDN'T SIT STILL, SO I TOLD HIM TO GO FOR A WALK!
GUESS WHAT? IT WAS THE KID WE SAW LAST NIGHT!
WELL, WHERE IS HE?
THAT KID JUST CAME FROM CHINA. HE SAID THAT HIS FRIENDS SHENG NU AND JIAN XIONG ASKED HIM TO COME FIND YOU!
HUH...
生奴 Sheng Nu
劍雄 Jian Xiong

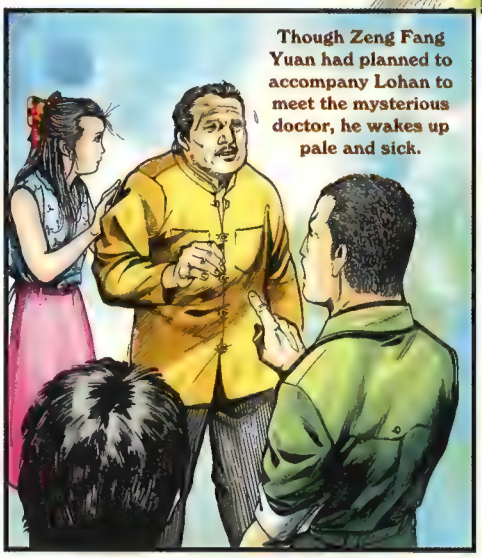
!啊 AH!
Unprepared for an attack by his uncle, Wu Yuan is cut!
Wu Yuan immediately springs into action!
UNCLE, LAN'S IN TROUBLE!
UNCLE, YOU...
PAH!
中華樓
With ten strong years of business in Chinatown, China Tower is the top teahouse in town!
BZZ!
As Wu Yuan hits the ground, roaches swarm all over him!

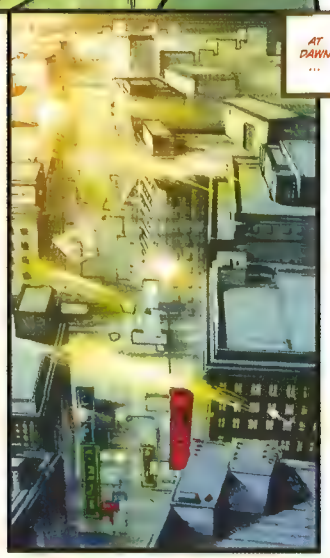
哇
WAAH
KSSHH!
乒乓!
小蘭嫂
出了事?
Ah! Lan what's wrong?

Lan takes water to her brother Gan and checks in to see how he's doing.
呀!!!
ENTERING THE ANTEROOM, SHE FINDS IT SWARMING WITH ROACHES!
呀!
呀!
CHAP!









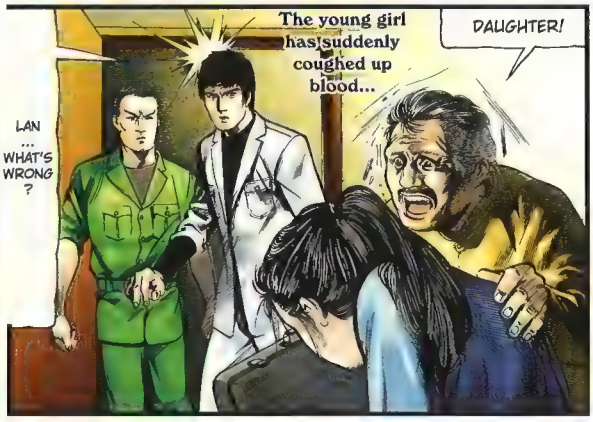
A veteran of numerous battles, Lohan knows that the Black Dragon Gang will soon be back for revenge.

...DID THE BLACK DRAGON GANG'S BIDDING?
SIGH...
WE NEED THE ROACHES TO KEEP MY SON ALIVE. THAT'S WHY I...
WHERE DO YOU FIND SO MANY ROACHES?
THE BLACK DRAGON GANG SUPPLIES THEM TO US.
IT'S NOTHING NEW! THEY'VE DONE EVEN WORSE THINGS TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS! DURING MY TRAVELS, I'VE SEEN COUNTLESS EXAMPLES!
WHAT DESPICABLE METHODS!
THE BLACK DRAGON GANG, OF COURSE. THESE VILE TACTICS ARE COMMON WAYS TO MAKE OTHERS DO THEIR DIRTY WORK.
HOW DID BOTH YOUR CHILDREN CATCH SUCH STRANGE DISEASES?
Though Wu Yuan is suddenly filled with a sense of righteous fury, the other two men stay silent. hey know that such a declaration is easier to state than to carry out.
HOW CAN SUCH AN EVIL ORGANIZATION BE ALLOWED TO EXIST?! WE MUST STAMP THEM OUT!
I'VE SOUGHT OUT ALL THE FAMOUS DOCTORS IN CHINATOWN, BUT TO NO AVAIL...
MASTER YUAN, I HAVE A FRIEND WHO SPECIALIZES IN HEALING STRANGE ILLNESSES. PERHAPS HE CAN HELP YOUR CHILDREN...

The sight is horrific! The three quickly leave the room.
ZHEN FANG YUAN'S BODY IS WRACKED WITH SOBS.
WHAT... COULD POSSIBLY HAVE DONE THIS TO HIM?
HE MUST EAT HUNDREDS OF ROACHES A DAY TO STAY ALIVE! MY CHILD, MY POOR CHILD...
IT IS A VERY RARE CONDITION, ONE THAT FORCES HIM TO SUBSIST ONLY ON ROACHES!
THOUSANDS OF ROACHES COVER EVERY INCH OF THE SMALL CELL! THOUGH THE BOY IS RESTRAINED WITH ROPES, HE STILL SWIPES AT THE AIR WITH HIS HANDS,SHOVELING AS MANY ROACHES AS HE CAN INTO HIS WAITING MOUTH!!

VERY WELL!
FATHER! TAKE THEM TO SEE BROTHER, THEN THEY WILL UNDERSTAND AND FORGIVE YOU!
I WANT TO HEAR HIS EXPLANATION!
BROTHER WU... THERE IS A REASON MY FATHER DID THOSE BAD THINGS!
WE'LL NEED TO CHANGE INTO THIS CLOTHING FIRST.
HE'S IN THIS ROOM!
MY UNCLE LOVES HIS SON, SO HOW CAN HE BE SO CRUEL AS TO LOCK HIM IN THIS CELL?
As the bolt-hole is opened, roaches fly out, carrying the scent of rotting flesh!
NEPHEW, LOOK FOR YOURSELF!
Lohan and Wu Yuan quickly halt their breathing upon smelling the foul odor.

Lohan quickly seals the thirty-six major pressure points on Lan's body to stop the bleeding!
PAH!
I AM PARTLY TO BLAME FOR HER INJURIES, SO...
WU YUAN GUARDS THEM AND STANDS READY TO TAKE OVER FOR LOHAN!
SHO!
LOHAN'S PALMS PRESS AGAINST LAN'S BACK, PUSHING CHI INTO HER BODY AND HELPING TO CIRCULATE HER BLOOD!
NOW I'LL USE MY CHI TO SPEED HER RECOVERY!
WU YUAN IS SKILLED IN INTERNAL MARTIAL ARTS AS WELL!
With the help of the two powerful fighters, Lan makes a speedy recovery.
Seeing that his daughter is well, Zhen Fang Yuan is overjoyed!
FA-THER ...
MY DAUGHTER, YOU'RE BETTER!...



ONLY BECAUSE THEY ARE FROM CHINA DOES LOHAN HOLD BACK HIS KILLING RAGE.

IF I CATCH YOU BULLYING OTHERS AGAIN, I'LL BREAK YOUR LEGS!

HA HA HA! IT TOOK A FIGHT TO GET TO KNOW YOU! MY NAME IS LOHAN!

MASTER, BEFORE I GO, I, WU YUAN, WOULD LIKE TO CALL YOU MY FRIEND!

Wu Yuan knows that he was being manipulated and picks up his things to leave.

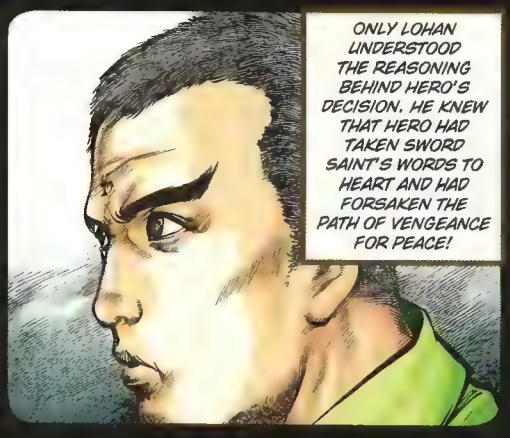
THE SLIGHTEST IMPACT CAN CAUSE HER TO BLEED UNCONTROLLABLY! THIS WOUND IS TOO MUCH FOR HER! SHE COULD EVEN DIE!

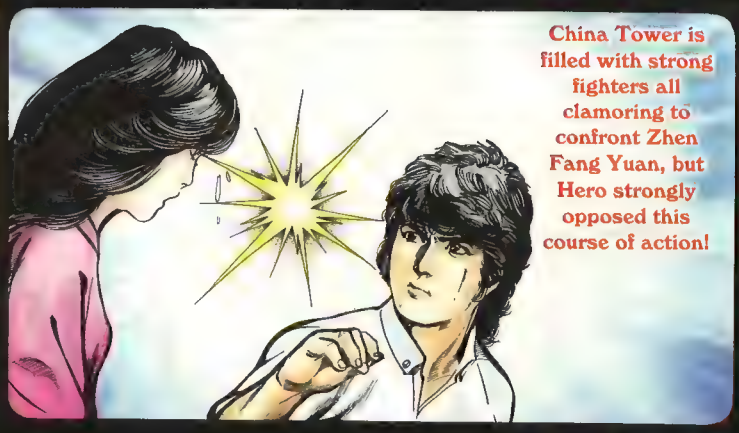
SHE HAS A STRANGE DISEASE!

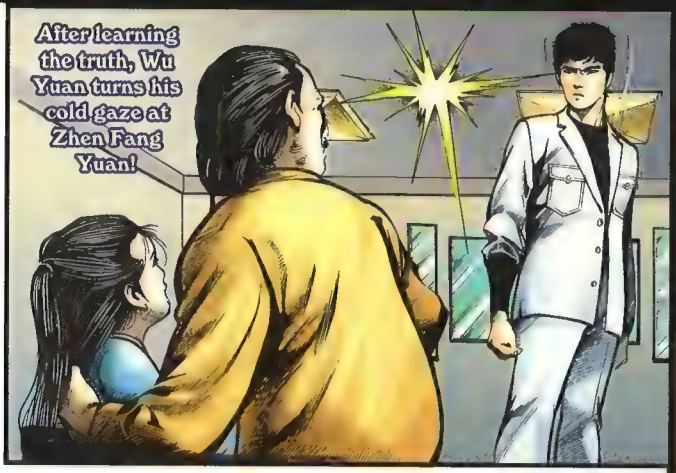
LAN ... WHAT'S WRONG ?

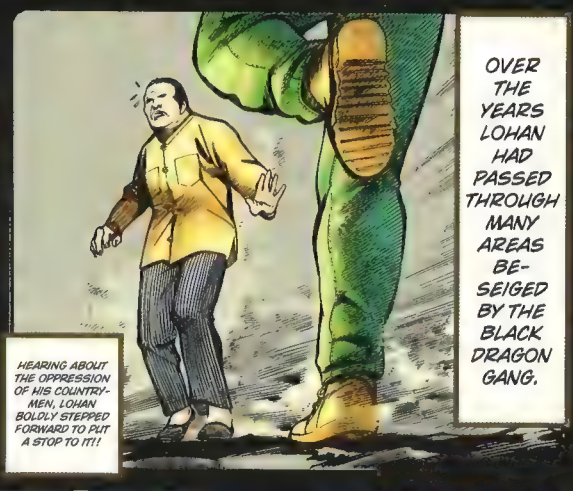
The young girl has suddenly coughed up blood...

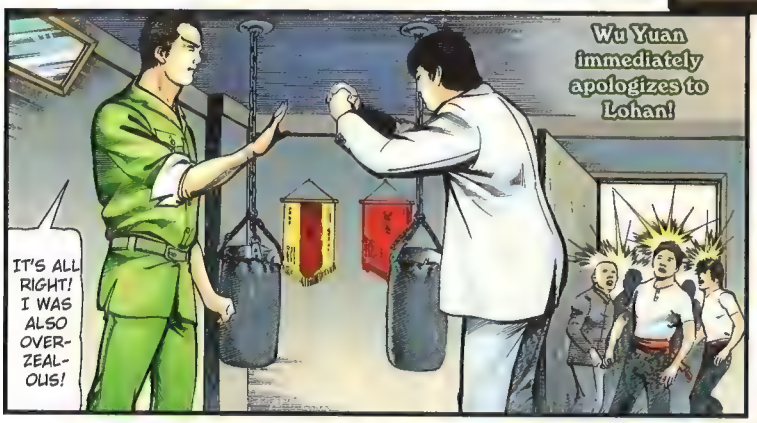
DAUGHTER!


ONLY LOHAN UNDERSTOOD THE REASONING BEHIND HERO'S DECISION. HE KNEW THAT HERO HAD TAKEN SWORD SAINT'S WORDS TO HEART AND HAD FORSAKEN THE PATH OF VENGEANCE FOR PEACE!

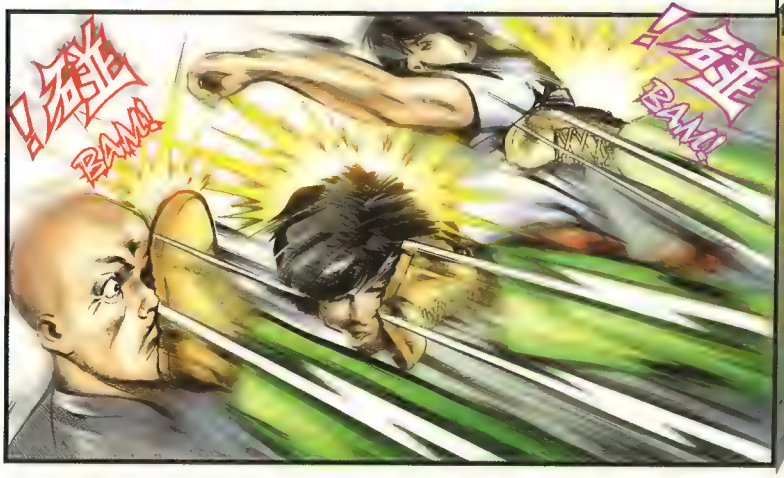

China Tower is filled with strong fighters all clamoring to confront Zhen Fang Yuan, but Hero strongly opposed this course of action!


After learning the truth, Wu Yuan turns his cold gaze at Zhen Fang Yuan!


HEARING ABOUT THE OPPRESSION OF HIS COUNTRY-MEN, LOHAN BOLDLY STEPPED FORWARD TO PUT A STOP TO IT!!
OVER THE YEARS LOHAN HAD PASSED THROUGH MANY AREAS BE-SEIGED BY THE BLACK DRAGON GANG.


Wu Yuan immediately apologizes to Lohan!
IT'S ALL RIGHT! I WAS ALSO OVER-ZEAL-OUS!

Zhen Fang Yuan knows that he is in the wrong and silently acknowledges his misconduct!


BAM!
BAM!

THEY'RE NOT FIGHTING EACH OTHER ANYMORE... RUN!!!

HIS SO-CALLED SCHOOL IS JUST A PLACE FOR MISCREANTS TO GATHER!

WHAT, YOU DON'T KNOW?
SIR, WHAT CAUSED THE TROUBLE BETWEEN YOU AND MY UNCLE?

This is because the school is actually a front for the Black Dragon Gang!

CHINATOWN'S PEACE AND QUIET IS RUINED BY THESE MISCREANTS, BUT NO ONE DARES TO INTERVENE!

THEY ARE ALWAYS UP TO NO GOOD, SELLING ILLEGAL DRUGS, GAMBLING, AND BULLYING OTHERS!

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, HEAVEN WOLF CLAN WAS DESTROYED, WHICH FREED LOHAN OF HIS RESPONSIBILITIES AS THEIR LEADER.
LIVING THE LIFE OF A WANDERING TRAVELER HAS GIVEN LOHAN AN UNEXPECTED SENSE OF HAPPINESS AND FREEDOM.

The Black Dragon Gang controls part of the American underworld, and anyone who stands in their way is killed.

There he learned of Zhen Fang Yuan's evil deeds.

PASSING THROUGH CHINATOWN, LOHAN VISITED HIS OLD FRIEND HERO.

Luckily, each was holding back. Even after forcibly abandoning their attacks, neither was hurt by the rebounding energy!
I STILL DON'T KNOW THE FULL POWER OF THE SHOCK-ING STANCE ...

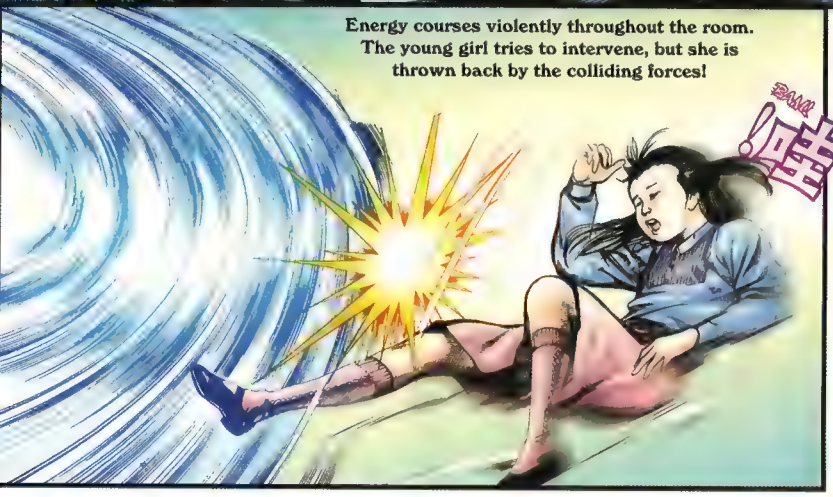
The moment she is struck, Lohan and Wu Yuan realize that they have hurt an innocent, and both immediately withdraw their attacks!

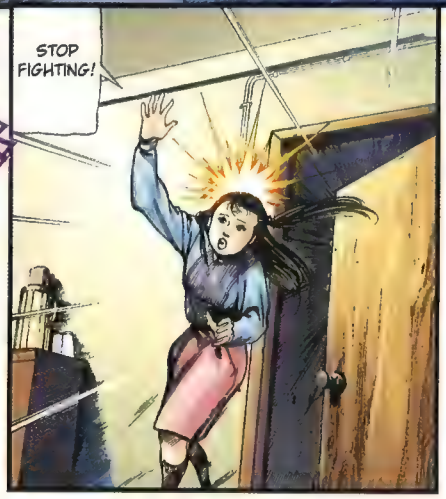
BROTHER WU...
LAN, ARE YOU OKAY?

The young girl faints from her injuries!

THE MAN YOU'RE FIGHTING IS A GOOD PERSON... IT'S MY FATHER WHO IS BAD...

Retracting Spear
Wu Yuan shows no weakness as he counters with...
He straightens the flexible chain until it is taut, forming a strong spear! Using the famous stance of the Yang Family's Spear Style, he-


Energy courses violently throughout the room. The young girl tries to intervene, but she is thrown back by the colliding forces!
BANG!


STOP FIGHTING!

PUSHING OFF WITH BOTH HANDS, LOHAN SWIRLS DOWN FROM THE CEILING WITH DEADLY SPEED.
AS THE TWO ADVANCE, LOHAN SUDDENLY LEAPS, FLYING LIKE AN ARROW TOWARD THE CEILING!
PU!
HUP!
AH!
Shocking Stance
IT IS LOHAN'S SHOCKING STANCE, THE CULMINATION OF ALL OF HIS FIGHTING POWER! COMBINING THE TYRANT KICKS WITH HIS OWN, LOHAN IS GIVING HIS NEW STANCE A TRIAL BY FIRE!

THEY BOTH KNOW THAT THIS NEXT ASSAULT...
...Will see one triumphant and the other one dead!
THE FIGHTERS REMAIN MOTIONLESS, BUT THEIR CHI CIRCULATES THROUGHOUT THE ROOM AS THEY PREPARE FOR THE NEXT CLASH.
SIGH... THERE ARE NO WIN-NERS HERE!
Their energy shatters the windows in the room.
CRACK CRACK!
VWM!

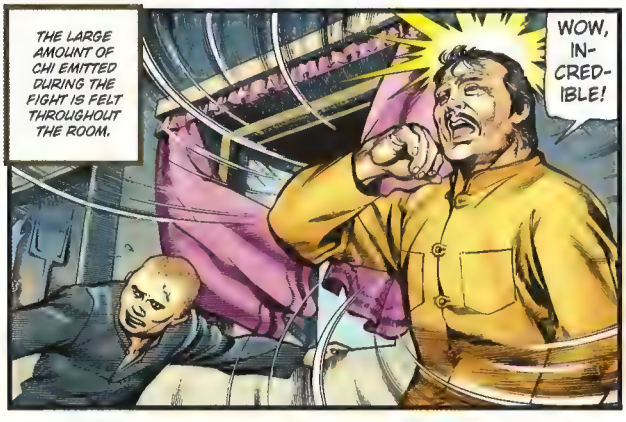
YA!
青蛇盤洞
Serpent Circles the Lair
SHO!
AHH!
SUCH POWERFUL KUNG FU IN SUCH CORRUPTED HANDS IS SADDENING TO SEE.
LOHAN'S NO-SHADOW KICK WAS DELIVERED AT FULL POWER, YET WU YUAN WAS ABLE TO STRIKE BACK AND EVEN TORE A SCRAP FROM LOHAN'S TROUSERS!
VERY GOOD!
A MAN OF LOHAN'S SKILLS IS RARELY SEEN, EVEN IN CHINA. HE SHOULD BE SPREADING THE GLORY OF HIS ART, BUT INSTEAD HE USES IT TO BRUTALIZE HIS COUNTRYMEN! I CANNOT STAND BY AND WATCH THIS HAPPEN!
HOW REGRETTABLE!
COMPETITION BETWEEN THE TWO HAS TURNED WHITE HOT, YET THEY BOTH FEEL A SENSE OF PITY FOR THE OTHER!

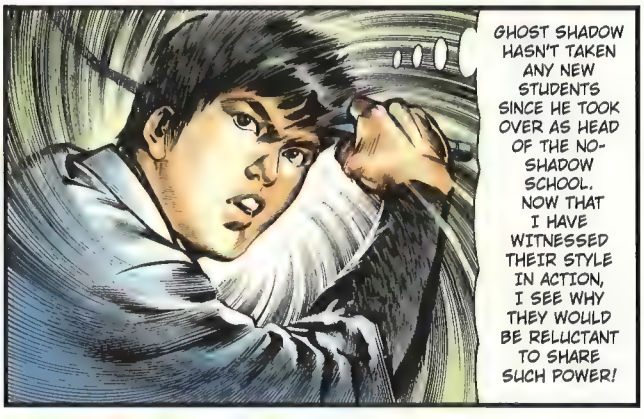
SHH!
!呼
SHH!
!呼
As the two fighters move faster and faster, they are both aware that even the smallest of mistakes could prove fatal!

THOSE IN THE ROOM CANNOT WITHSTAND IT AND ARE FORCED TO FLEE.

SOON THEY BECOME INDISTINGUISHABLE FROM ONE ANOTHER. THEIR FIGHT CREATES A VORTEX SO STRONG THAT IT EVEN DRAWS THE BREATH FROM THOSE AROUND THEM.

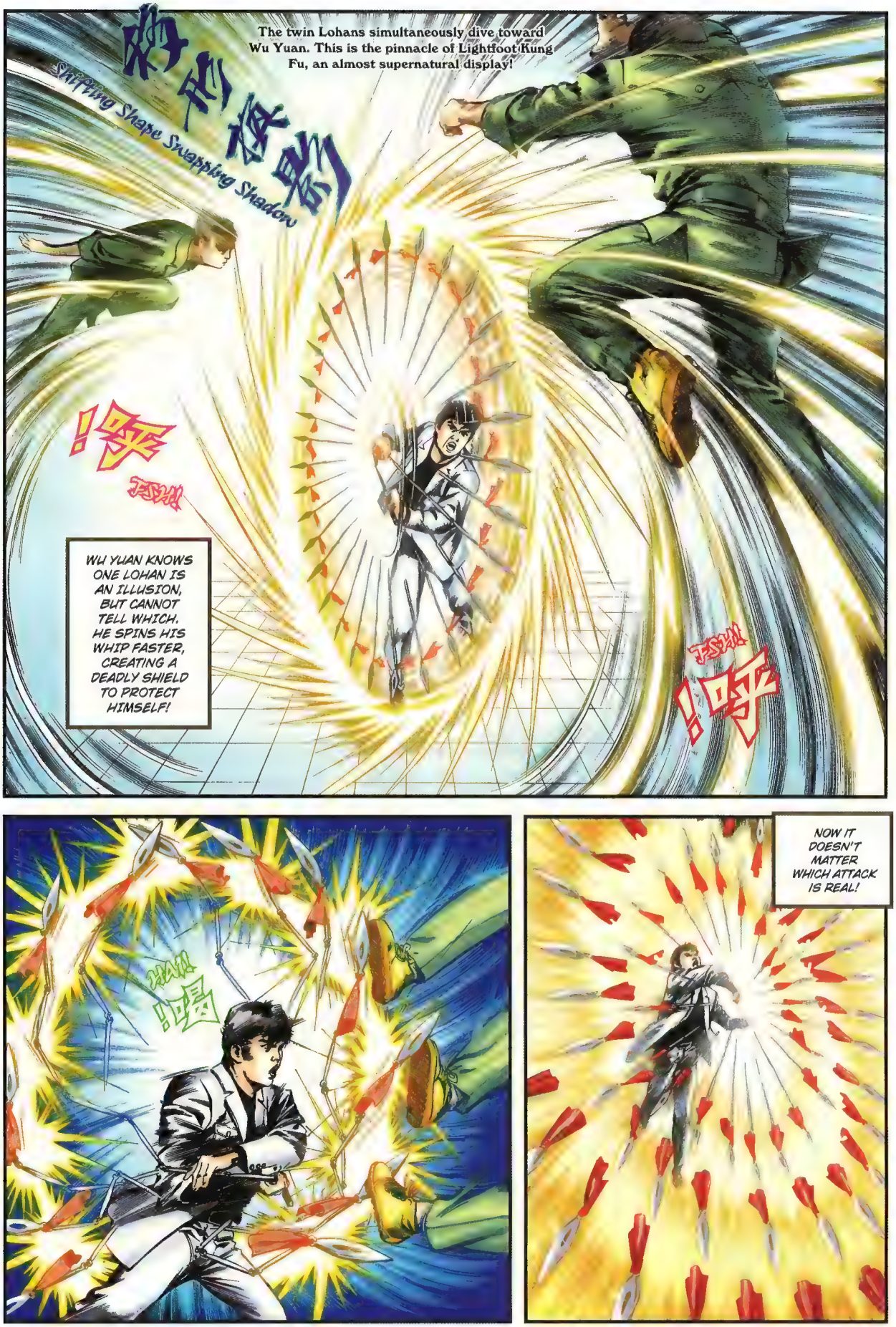
SINCE THIS TECHNIQUE ISN'T WORKING AND REQUIRES CONSIDERABLE CHI, LOHAN ABANDONS IT. HIS TWO IMAGES COALESCE...


THE LARGE AMOUNT OF CHI EMITTED DURING THE FIGHT IS FELT THROUGHOUT THE ROOM.
WOW, IN-CRED-IBLE!


GHOST SHADOW HASN'T TAKEN ANY NEW STUDENTS SINCE HE TOOK OVER AS HEAD OF THE NO-SHADOW SCHOOL. NOW THAT I HAVE WITNESSED THEIR STYLE IN ACTION, I SEE WHY THEY WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO SHARE SUCH POWER!

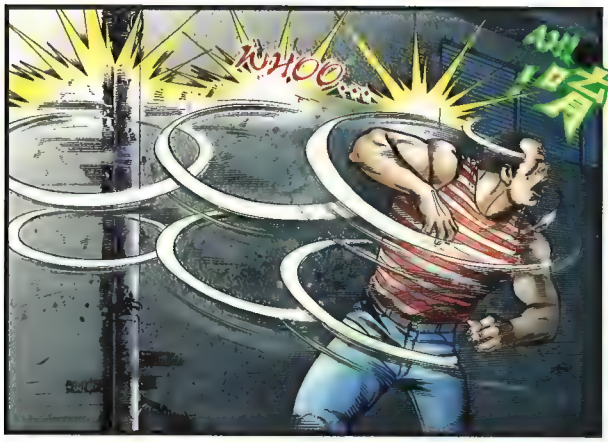
...But his attack is deflected once again!
PANG!

LOHAN SPINS AROUND, LOOOKING FOR AN OPENING, THEN QUICKLY STRIKES...

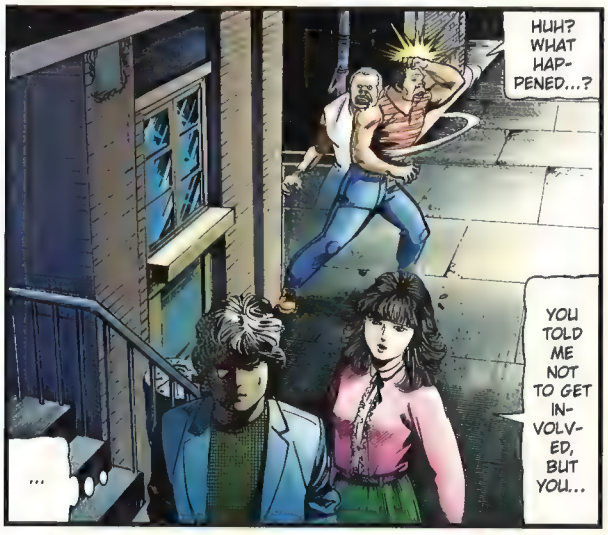

The twin Lohans simultaneously dive toward Wu Yuan. This is the pinnacle of Lightfoot Kung Fu, an almost supernatural display!
Shifting Shape Snapping Shadow
WU YUAN KNOWS ONE LOHAN IS AN ILLUSION, BUT CANNOT TELL WHICH. HE SPINS HIS WHIP FASTER, CREATING A DEADLY SHIELD TO PROTECT HIMSELF!
NOW IT DOESN'T MATTER WHICH ATTACK IS REAL!

Instead of pressing his attack, Wu Yuan takes a defensive stance!
HIS WHIP CHAIN ATTACKS ARE UNBELIEV-ABLE!
THE ATTACK IS INTENSE, FORCING LOHAN TO DODGE AND WITHDRAW!
NEPHEW, FINISH HIM!
IT'S RARE FOR WU YUAN TO MEET SOMEONE WHO MATCHES HIM IN SKILL. HE FEELS A STRANGE SENSE OF EXCITE-MENT!
A STR-ONG BOY ...
AFTER THIS INITIAL EXCHANGE, LOHAN HAS NEW RESPECT FOR HIS OPPONENT!
THAT'S NO-SHADOW SCHOOL'S MOST POWERFUL STANCE, "SHIFTING SHAPE SWAPPING SHADOW!"
WITH ONLY A HINT OF EFFORT, LOHAN SPINS FASTER AND FASTER, UNTIL IT SEEMS THAT THERE ARE TWO OF HIM!
HAHA!

His impulsive action tonight now prompts him to contemplate the principles by which he lives.
HERO'S STRONG CHI HAS KEPT HIM LOOKING FAR YOUNGER THAN HIS TRUE AGE.
ALLOWING HIMSELF NO DISTRACTIONS, HE HAS SPENT A DECADE AND A HALF IMPROVING HIS MARTIAL ARTS ABILITIES.
FSHH!
Meanwhile, Wu Yuan and Lohan continue their fight...
...ONLY TO IMMEDIATELY STRIKE AGAIN!
SHOO!
SHIP!
Wu Yuan suddenly jerks back his whip...
Lohan spins like a tornado, dodging all of the attacks!
SHH!
CHING!


WHOO...
AH!

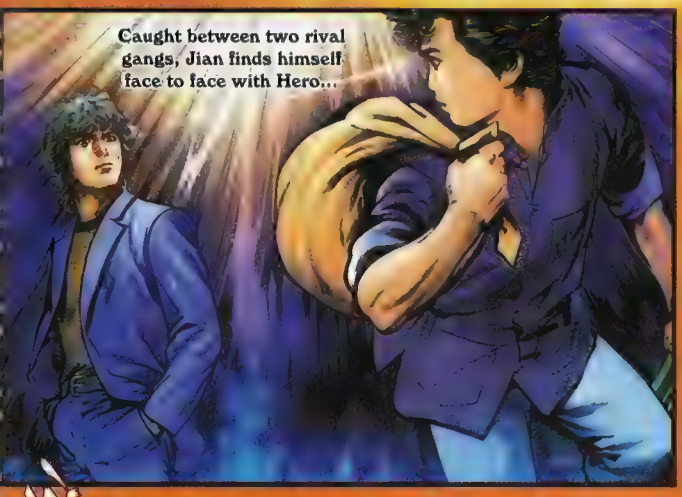
Jian is already gone.


HUH? WHAT HAP-PENED...?
YOU TOLD ME NOT TO GET IN-VOLV-ED, BUT YOU...
...

...AND SECRETLY EXERTS HIS CHI!
VMM!

It's been fifteen years since Sword Saint passed away. Hero has been diligent in caring for Qing and Zhi. He's also been engrossed in the business at China Tower.

Shocking Stance



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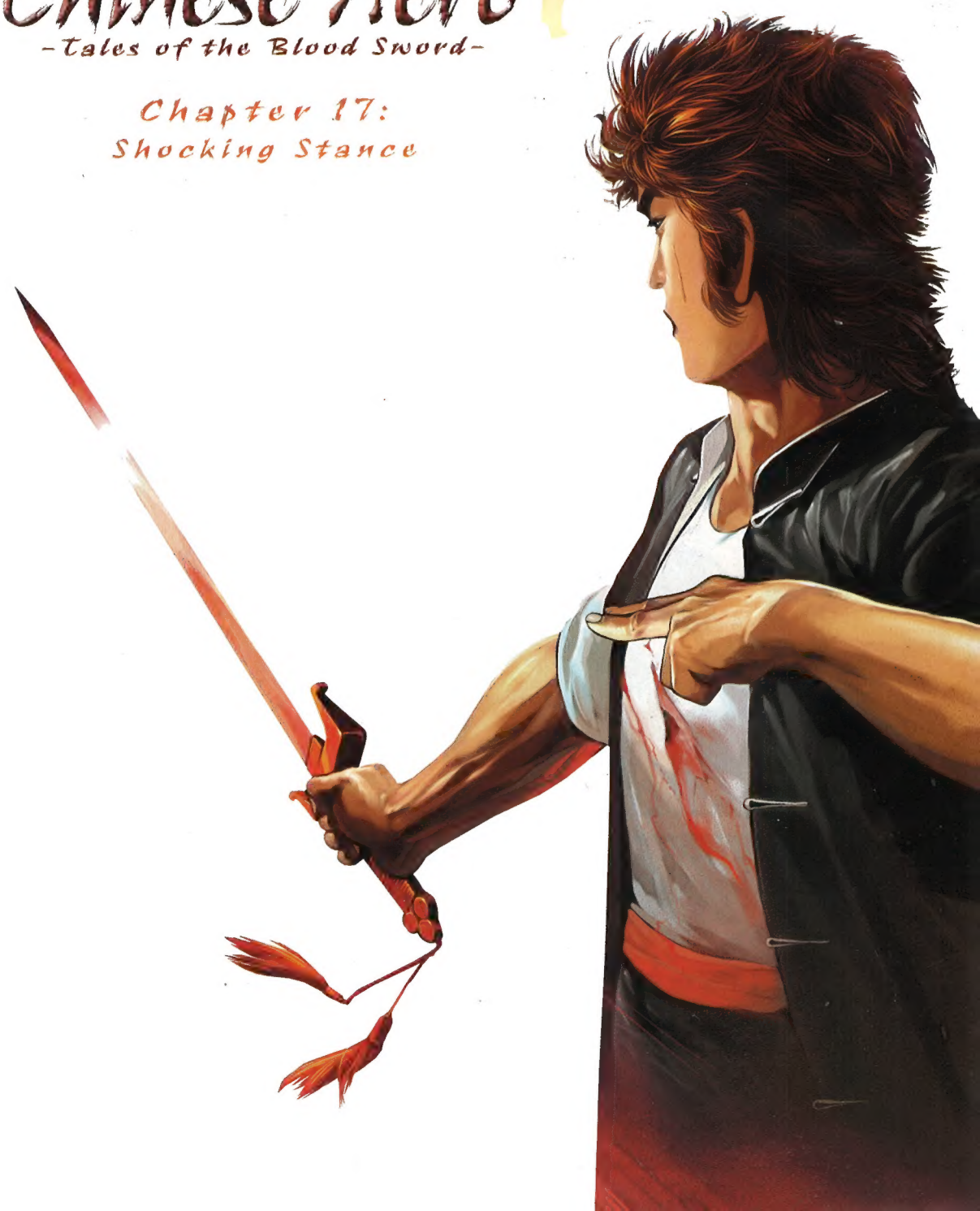
Chapter 17:
Shocking Stance



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Author
Wing Shing Ma

Translator
Yun Zhao

English Adaption
Benjamin stone

Editor
Sue Yang

Supervising Editor
Benjamin stone

Production Artist
Kevin Miller

Production Manager/
US Cover Design
Bryce Gunkel

V.P of Operations
Yuki Chung

President
Jennifer Chen

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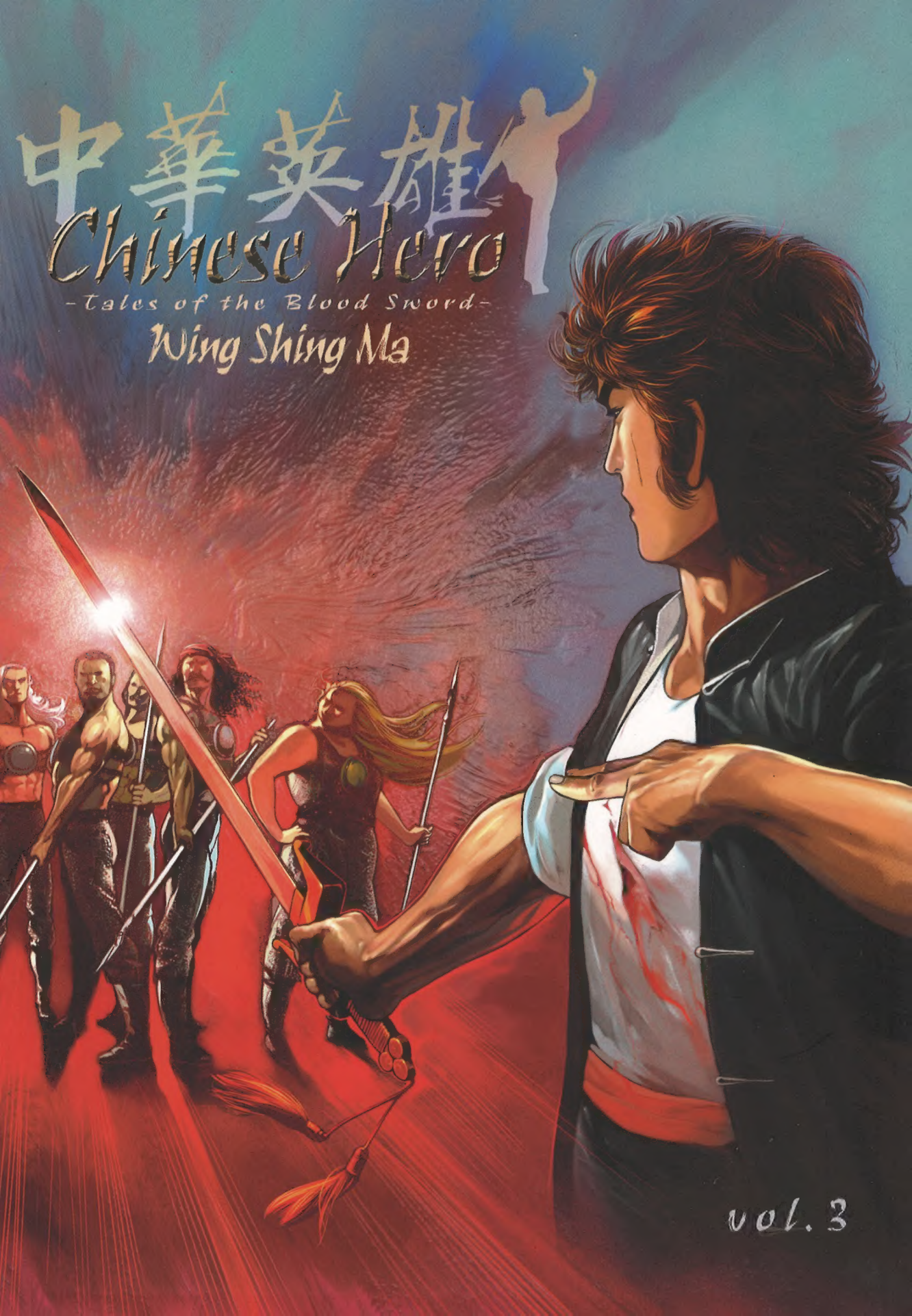
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